

Christmas in Bethel

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The Bethel Citizen

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Serving Bethel and neighboring communities in the mountains of western Maine

Rep. Crockett weighs in on Legislature and Gov. LePage

By ALISON ALOISIO

Maine's new fireworks law needs to be revisited. Increasing the penalties for welfare fraud and restructuring the Land Use Regulation Commission are among the best regulatory reform accomplishments of the past two years.

Gov. LePage should abide by Maine voters' approval of land conservation bonds two years ago and issue the bonds.

Those are some of the views of Rep. Jarrod Crockett (R-Bethel), the area's recently re-elected House District 91 legislator.

Last week he shared his assessment of the past two years, along with his expectations for the next session of the Legislature, with The Citizen.

Over the course of his first two years in office, the two topics on which Crockett has heard the

most from his constituents are fireworks and state road maintenance.

While roads are a steady source of feedback and an issue he says he will continue to work on, the law legalizing fireworks this year brought some unexpected reaction.

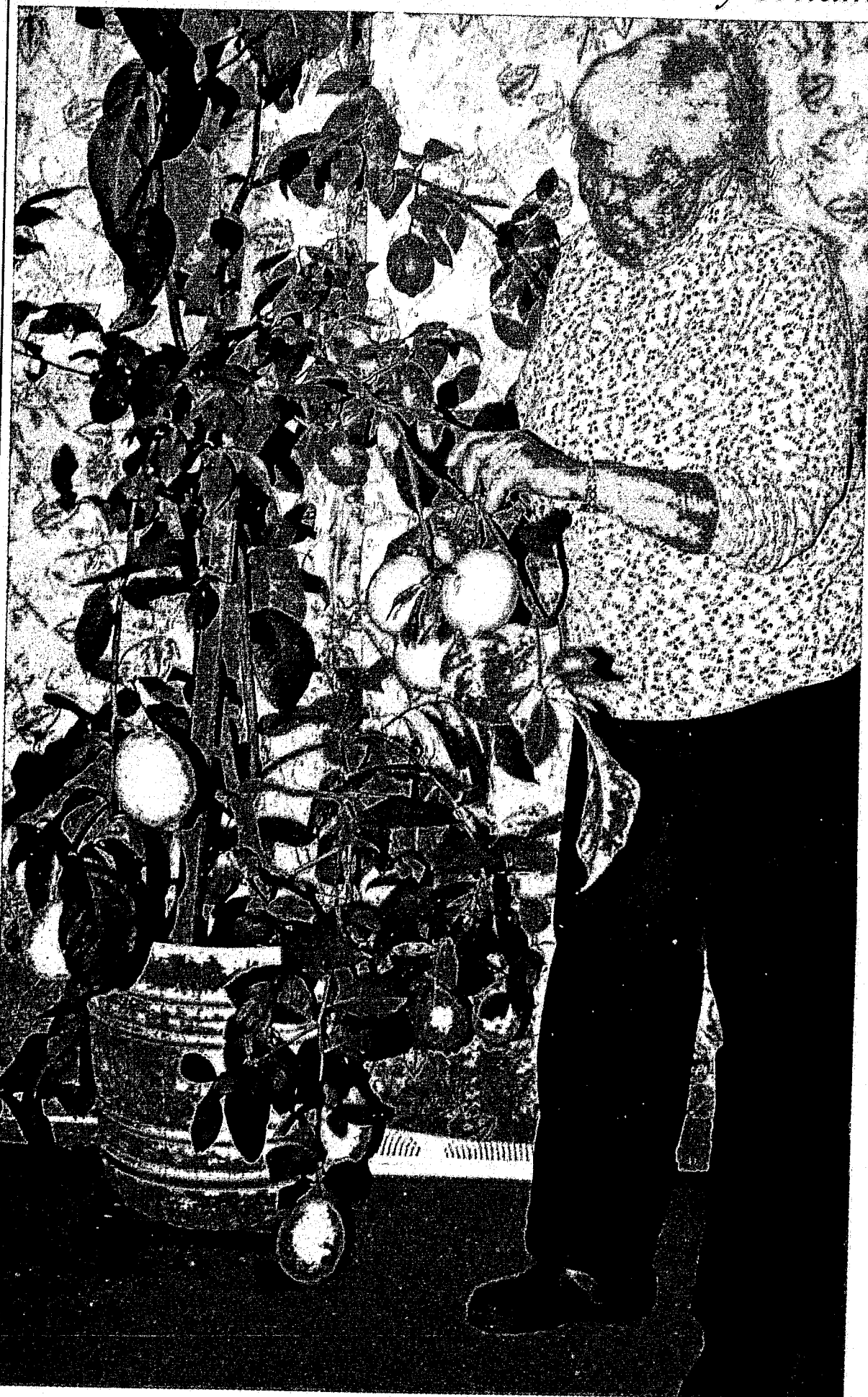
"I've heard more about that bill than I ever would have thought," he said.

In addition to complaints from people who live on area lakes and ponds, where fireworks have most often been used, "I've heard from large landowners worried about fires," said Crockett. "We need to re-look at that issue and make it as compatible as possible with what Maine people want. Clearly we didn't get it right."

Other recent legislation that he said may need more work includes

See CROCKETT, Page 4

Lemon tree produces its own holiday ornaments



Barbara Gallant of Newry looks at the large lemons growing on her eight-foot tree. Nearly the size of grapefruit, the lemons began growing just this year on the eight-year-old tree.

(Photo: A. Aloisio)

Three Nordic ski centers to offer combined pass

By ALISON ALOISIO

Beginning this winter, cross-country skiers will be able to buy a single pass that will allow them to hit the trails at three Bethel-area ski centers.

Combined season- and day-passes will be available for Carter's Cross Country Ski Center, the Bethel Nordic Ski Center at the Bethel Inn and the Outdoor Center at Sunday River.

The arrangement was established through a new nonprofit known as the Outdoor Center.

One of the organizers is Mike Cooper, who for the past decade has had the contract to operate the Bethel Inn Center.

The cooperative effort began last spring, he said, when area skiers learned that Sunday River Ski Re-

sort did not plan to continue leasing the Sunday River Inn Ski Center. Cooper and others wanted to find a way to keep the trails operating.

"We saw it as an asset," he said last week.

The Outdoor Center is now selling memberships to help fund the continued operation for this year. Memberships range from \$35 ("Friend") to \$750 ("Gold," which includes a family season pass). Cooper said he and others are also loaning personal funds to help the cause for this year.

The inn itself has been leased to Duane Bond of Newry, according to owner Steve Wight. The Outdoor Center is subleasing the ski operation from Bond, Wight said.

See XC, Page 3

New study finds no noise violations from wind turbines

By ALISON ALOISIO

After much analysis of new data on the sound generated by the Spruce Mountain Wind turbines, the final judgment may come down to one non-scientific observation.

"Loud" isn't a defined term," said Todd Presson, chief operating officer for Patriot Renewables LLC, the company that built the turbines. "It may be some people are more sensitive. It's all perception."

This past summer camp owners on Concord and Shagg ponds in Woodstock complained about noise from the 10 SMW towers about a mile away.

SMW's state permit calls for noise limits of 55 decibels during the day and 45 at night, at either the property boundary or 500 feet from a residence (or "receptor").

In early August Patriot Renewables invited the concerned residents, as well as town officials and DEP representatives, to an informational meeting on the tower property.

The company also contracted with Resource Systems Group, Inc. of White River Junction, Vt. to set up monitoring equipment at the home of Pat Mabey on Concord

See WIND, Page 3

By ALISON ALOISIO

One day this fall, Barbara Gallant of Newry was in the grocery store when she saw a sign that said, "Large Lemons."

"I was snickering," she remembers. "Large lemons? They don't know what a large lemon is!"

The produce people might want to visit Gallant and her eight-year-old, eight-foot-tall indoor lemon tree.

It's currently in full

fruit, boasting lemons that are approaching grapefruit size.

"People ask me what I feed it," she says. "I tell them, 'water.'"

She got the tree as a five-inch seedling from her nephew, who has a greenhouse and a green thumb. Barbara had been visiting him at his home in Caribou, and shortly before she left, he asked if she would like a little tree.

She agreed to take it.

"We had the car full of stuff. So I had to hold the tree in my lap the whole way home," she said.

For the next seven years not much happened, other than the tree got steadily taller. But she didn't really expect much. She had been told lemon trees need to be at least seven years old before they bear fruit.

Over that time, Barbara developed a love-hate relationship with the tree, as it dropped leaves on her

living room carpeting and seemed to generally be in the way.

"Some days I'd get so disgusted, and I'd say 'I'm going to get rid of it' - but I didn't," she said.

Then this past summer, she decided to put the tree out on her deck, where some pollinating bees apparently found its blossoms.

Since then the tree has popped out more than a

See TREE, Page 3

Newry ski bar to display "Rock Star Skier" memorabilia starting this year

By ALISON ALOISIO

Taking a cue from the Hard Rock Cafes that display famous rock-'n-roll memorabilia, the Matterhorn Ski Bar in Newry this year is starting its own collection of "Rock Star Skier" memorabilia.

"Each season, we will honor an esteemed skier or snowsports celebrity who will donate a significant piece of skiing memorabilia that will hang on the walls in the ski bar," owner Roger Beaudoin said last week.

The first "inductee" will be a ski jacket worn by Dan Egan, an early pioneer in the daredevil sport

of extreme skiing, Beaudoin said.

"He has been recognized as one of the premier adventure skiers in the world," said Beaudoin. "He's famous for appearing in 12 Warren Miller Entertainment films before starting his own film and network television company, Egan Entertainment Network."

Egan has written two books, produced skiing videos and coaches advanced skiing clinics all over the world, according to Beaudoin.

"Dan is a friend of the Sunday River community and is well suited to be

first honoree for his love of the sport and numerous contributions to skiing," he said.

The jacket, by North Face is the first snowboard-ski jacket ever made, according to Egan, and was featured in two ski videos.

Egan will be at the Matterhorn Saturday, Dec. 15 at 5:30 p.m. to sign autographs and pose for photos.

Already on the "rock star" wall is a 10-year-old poster signed by Glen Plake, a freestyle skier who stands out both for his skiing and his famous "extreme" Mohawk hair-

style. "Thanks for preserving skiing's past," Plake wrote on the poster.

A second poster on the wall includes the signature.

See SKIERS, Page 3

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Letters

MORE DOG PARK CONCERNS

To the Editor:

The letter of Nov. 29 about the Dog Park Update leaves me with some questions and comments about the "Proposed Bethel Dog Park." Having said that, I did some research.

First off - The letter leads you to believe there have been and are ongoing meetings with the snowmobile clubs. In actuality there has been only one official meeting. There are no minutes on record of any committee meetings between the Dog Park Committee and the Bethel Snow Twisters. Nor have they been contacted. There have been conversations with a (one) member - nothing official or officially presented. No one from our club was solicited for design plans. I spoke to the President of the Club, the Secretary/Treasurer and the Trail Master (Bethel Snow Twisters). I spoke to the Secretary of the Greenstock Club and was informed of the one and only meeting.

The clubs are trying to keep their trail(s). And keep them from being infringed upon. A (one) snowmobile club member was shown a design plan that was presented to him on the situated dog park and the snowmobile trail had already been moved. It was already on the plan (without asking for any ideas or design input). Of course the "club leaders" have expressed the need for an alteration to the trail - the dog park is infringing on their trail. They (the "Committee") just went ahead and moved it and then showed it to a (one) club member. The trail has been there for years.

In the Nov. 29 letter it states: "When the plan is finally accepted." I think there are still many unanswered questions and concerns before anything is accepted. Back to: town liability/lawsuits (from possible dog bites/fights to other dogs and humans), doctor/vet bills, maintenance of the park, is it just for Bethel residents' use? Is it a four-season park? Who's going to monitor "strange" dogs coming into the park from passing motorists? If there's used "doggy bags" in containers provided, who is going to empty those? It's still town property. Who is liable for such impending issues/concerns? Will the town have to purchase liability insurance? At whose expense?

It is my understanding that to dig out, cut trees/brush and fill in the "proposed" area, it could cost in the vicinity of \$25,000 to \$40,000 plus another \$18,000 to \$20,000 for the fencing. Isn't there another place more feasible and attractive? And not infringe on the trail system.

Somehow I'm just afraid the taxpayers are going to end up paying for something - liability insurance, lawsuits for doctors' bills, veterinary bills and maintenance, to name a few.

I hope anyone else who has similar concerns will call their Select Person/Planning Board Member and let them know they have concerns/issues. It is my understanding that a meeting is scheduled for Dec. 12 at the Town Office concerning the "Proposed Bethel Dog Park." Hopefully there will be some answers there.

The idea of dogs running free and playing and socializing is wonderful, and I agree with that. I think that in Metropolitan areas there is a need for such a park that is supported by municipal funds, but in rural Bethel, Maine? I also agree that the snowmobilers should be able to run and play and socialize on their own established trail that they have worked on and maintained for many years.

Sue Cross
Bethel dog owner

COME TO THE CONCERT

To the Editor:

The Mahoosuc Community Band is excited about our concert this coming Sunday, Dec. 9, at 4 p.m. at the West Parish Congregational Church in Bethel.

The concert is filled with traditional favorites and newer melodies. We have some new songs this Christmas season: Benny Goodman: A King of Swing arranged by Paul Murtha and Flourish for Wind Band by R. Vaughan Williams. We will also play familiar favorites of Silver Bells, Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas and naturally, Sleigh Ride.

All are welcome to come and start celebrating the holiday season. The band really appreciates the support of the greater Bethel community. Through the years it has been a pleasure to play music for the communities.

The community band practices Monday nights at the Congregational Church basement in Bethel. After the Holiday concert, the group takes a break and restarts rehearsals Jan. 7, 2013. New members are always welcome.

The opportunity to enjoy music lasts through the years. Many of our members played in high school and stopped. Yes, it took time to regain the notes. Yet this group is really encouraging, and enjoys music together. Young people from area Middle and High Schools are welcome.

For more information contact band president Kathleen DeVore, (875-2364 or katdev@aol.com)

Jane Chandler
for Mahoosuc Community Band

The Bethel Citizen

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WHY A DOG PARK IS NEEDED

To the Editor:

Having read the two most recent dog park articles I felt I need to add my two cents. Last year I placed ads here to people interested in a Bethel Dog Park. Steve Wight was the third to call. We became fast dog friends and co-chairs of the Bethel Dog Park Committee. We meet bi-monthly. We welcome anyone who would like to attend. We are open to any opposing views. Our intention is to bring people together, not apart. Why are dog parks needed when we have hundreds of acres here in Maine to walk with our dogs? Because many dogs cannot be trusted off leash. Maine also has a leash law.

When I was in court for a friend some months ago, the court was ridiculously filled up with complaints of dogs misbehaving that were off leash running free. Killing chickens and other problems when dogs run wild.

A dog park is for everyone. It's a very safe protected environment to allow dogs to be dogs. They're pack animals and thrive when together in a dog park. It's fun for all, dogs and their owners. It's a perfect place for the community to meet winter, summer, spring and fall. Especially, it would be a winter wonderland. A place to ward off cabin fever in the winter. To get to know your neighbors better. For fun and for free. A place to gather, take pictures and laugh at the antics of our canines. A place to let them get all their energy out by playing up a storm. A place where dog people can go to without having to run or walk their dogs all the time. A delightful break for all. Dog parks throughout the country are in cities and the country. It's a safe protected environment where they can socialize and run free without the threat of harm. Learn and teach each other as pack animals do.

The Bethel Dog Park is designed after the Humane Society's in Lewiston, located by the Emergency Animal Hospital and The Humane Society.

The dog park will even cater to the small dogs who may be too intimidated to sniff and play with the larger ones. They will have one-third of the park to themselves, only for dogs 30 pounds or under. Their owners may bring them into the 30 pounds and over section if they'd like.

The town of Bethel has a place for all other of its citizens. A playground, a skating park, bicycle paths, walking path, a pond to swim in, (where dogs are not even allowed). And a numerous amount of snowmobile and hiking paths. The snowmobiling path by the dog park would not interfere with the snowmobilers or the dogs. We could live in unison. I understand that change can be a dirty word. It has for me at times. You know. But, honestly, I feel that we all can reach a comfortable and fair solution for everyone.

In recent years, there are at least three new businesses that are dog-related. When tourists come to Bethel and Sunday River who have a dog that is considered part of their family, they can have their dogs groomed and have access to Doggie-Daycare that they may bring their pups with them on vacation here in Western Maine.

I for one, do not let Banjo off his leash as a rule. The Great Pyrenees Dog for 5,000 years is used to roaming hundreds of miles guarding sheep. Without a leash he'd be gonzo! Good Great Pyrenees breeders only sell them to people with a fenced-in yard.

There are many breeds of dogs and mutts that would bolt as soon as the leash was off perhaps never to be seen again.

Many a dog simply cannot be trusted off lead. A dog park is an intelligent, safe and fun way to let our beloved dogs play together without fear of them racing across a road after a squirrel and getting hit by a car.

The people of dog parks, especially, the regulars as Banjo and I would be, take care of their own as well as each other, and that includes cleaning up after dogs.

There's great community spirit amongst dog owners. If an aggressive dog tries to hurt another dog, they are immediately escorted out of the dog park. If there is a fight, that is between the dog owners involved. It is their responsibility to get to a veterinarian, if needed. And the guilty party pays the bills. It is not something the town need be wary of. It all comes out in the wash. When there is not water pumped into a dog park, we dog lovers bring our own. Our own toys, water bowls and even chairs. We watch each other's back. There are dog park rules, which the Friends of the Bethel Dog Park Committee have agreed on after investigating a numerous amount of Dog Parks and their rules and suggestions. I believe we've taken the best of the best of them.

Many times I've walked Banjo on or near the snowmobile path by the walking path. The snowmobile people are always nice and friendly. If we are walking on their turf they graciously just ride on a different spot, that we may continue our winter walk. Or we move over. The snowmobilers don't bother Banjo. He, like most dogs, accept the loud sounds of trucks, cars and snowmobilers. Some dogs are so mellow that they even accept lightning and fireworks. Not Banjo though!

I think it's time to care for our dog people as we care for everyone else in this fine town of Bethel.

I feel that The Bethel Dog Park and the other dog businesses will help to bring in more tourists. I know the peace and joy that I have when traveling that there's a dog daycare, groomer and such. It certainly helps me to decide where I travel to. Many small towns and cities are catering more and more to dogs.

I believe there is room enough in Bethel for all our needs. Even for dog owners; I hope and believe our time has come.

We're working very hard to raise the necessary money to accomplish this. The ball is in our court. We'd like our court to be for everyone. All inclusive for the love of dogs. God spell backwards spells Dog.

For the last ten years I've asked other dog people if they'd like to have a dog park. Not one, has said no.

There is no question that can't be answered or problem that can't be solved when we all work together with love, respect and information.

The Bethel Dog Park is needed by many. Please climb aboard. Your dogs will love you for it.

Judith Price Diamond
Bethel

INFORMATION ABOUT CANCER

To the Editor:

I am writing this letter because I know of no other way to get the information out that I have. I am writing about cancer. Brain cancer. In recent months/weeks I have heard of a few different people in this area that have some form of brain cancer. I do not know these people or really know how to reach them. I am in hopes that they or someone they know will read this letter and then get in touch with me.

As a lot of your readers know, Leslie Robertson, was diagnosed with Glioblastoma Multiform (Stage 4 brain cancer) in December of 2008. At that time he was given 8 to 14 months.

Leslie went through what they call "standard of care" for someone with brain cancer. (Chemo and radiation). During this we did a lot of research of all kinds of different information. We contacted so many brain tumor centers that I lost count.

In the process of looking into some of the clinical trials I sent an e-mail to Dr. Andrew Sloan at University Hospital in Cleveland, Ohio. This was on a Saturday afternoon. Approximately 2 p.m., shortly after I hit send on my computer the phone rang. It was Dr. Sloan.

We talked about the trial and started a dialogue with him about options. We went to Cleveland and met with him. In January of 2010 Leslie's tumor returned. In having met with Dr. Sloan and continuing with research as to what options were out there we were able to have Leslie become part of a vaccine trial.

Leslie has had one other actual surgery to remove what was thought to be the return of the tumor but proved to be scar tissue. Leslie is doing well for all that he has been through. I am sure that a lot of you reading this letter saw him in the hay fields this summer getting his hay in.

I am writing this letter because I want to let people know that there are options out there. Dana Farber, in Boston, is a great place and they do offer many different treatments. But, a lot of cancer centers offer different treatments because of ongoing clinical trials. Also, sometimes the doctors are different. Dr. Sloan is aggressive. Other doctors we have met have not been.

We were scared when we first started traveling to the "city." Did not know what to expect or where we would stay, etc. What we found was a staff that worked with us and helped us deal with most if not all our issues. I know that this a real personal issue.

Each person/family deal with cancer, any cancer in different ways and fully respect that. We were overwhelmed when this happened to Leslie. We did not know what to do. We just took what was told to us and did not question. Then, when we found that we could question and find answers to those questions we felt empowered. This is a good feeling when you are dealing with any type of cancer. Did we always get the answers we wanted, no. But we did feel more in control and that helped.

I am willing to talk with anyone going through this and possibly put them in touch with Dr. Sloan or some pointers on research, etc. I can be contacted at dala@mega-link.net.

Linda Smith
Bethel

CORRECTION

ADDRESS IN ERROR-A Letter to the Editor in last week's Citizen from Larry Billings should have given his address as 56 Main Street. It was a typographical error.

Celladore may be found on Page 20 this week.

Our Back Pages

Danna Brown Nickerson

10 years ago: The CPS Dinner Theater event drew over 150 people, raising nearly \$1,500 toward their end-of-year Boston trip.

The Telstar senior class hosted the second annual Chocolate Festival at the Victoria Inn and Restaurant.

Deaths: Gerald C. Gammon, Jr., Edward M. Buck, Robert J. Howe, Ismay M. Mechem, Helen Tetley.

20 years ago: More than 40 Bethel, Newry and Greenwood firefighters responded to a blaze at Jim Hudson's converted silo.

Sharon and Robert Hutchins were guests of honor at a surprise 25th anniversary party hosted by their children.

Births: Hannah Noel Morin, David Myles Ducas, Leah Ruth Rottari.

Deaths: Paul A. Carter, Ronald H. Tyler.

30 years ago: Community members were invited to a public open house at the new Bethel House apartments on Main Street.

Groan and McGurn opened the Tourist Trap in the former L&F Country Store building adjacent to their greenhouse complex at West Bethel.

Deaths: Mrs. Edith F. Bryant, H. Clifford Miller, Roland H. Haggett, D. Walston Andrews.

40 years ago: Suzanne and Douglas Bane served as chairmen of Bethel's Living Nativity Scene.

F. Daniel Vogt was a member of the Bowdoin College varsity basketball team.

Birth: Chari Lee Brown.

Deaths: Lynwood L. Adams, Mrs. Sally A. Lizotte, Mrs. Thelma Rolfe.

50 years ago: Jerry Smith of Bethel was to be the new ski instructor at Mt. Abram Ski Slopes.

The Children's Dance Theater presented "Babes in Toyland" at Odeon Hall.

Birth: Melissa K. Blosssey.

Death: Herbert W. Winslow.

60 years ago: A profit of \$544.26 was realized from the Crescent Park School Fair.

The barn and slaughterhouse of Charles M. McInnis, Bryant Pond, were lost in a \$30,000 fire. The adjoining home was saved.

Deaths: John A. Barker, Mrs. Elizabeth Vashaw, Edward B. Mason.

70 years ago: Women taking Civilian Defense courses were fingerprinted.

Snowplows were out for the first storm.

Deaths: Florence Brown, Alton C. Hadley, Francis I. Penley.

80 years ago: Richard Leighton, Bethel section foreman, broke his ankle when he jumped over a mud puddle.

Twenty-one members of the Epworth League, Bethel Methodist Church, attended a county group meeting at South Paris.

Deaths: Mrs. Alice Wolfe, Mrs. Madeline McKay.

90 years ago: The mail team driven by Gard Goddard was struck by an auto. The horse was injured so badly it was necessary to shoot him.

100 years ago: Edward King of Bethel started for Florida with a sightseeing tour.

Death: Mrs. Charles H. Harris.

110 years ago: A representation of the Eastman Kodak Co. gave a demonstration of the Kodak machine at Wiley's drug store.

Thermometers went to 22 below zero and a high wind made weather uncomfortable.

Wood was being sawed by horsepower on a job at Northwest Bethel.

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Wind

Continued from page 1

Pond, in order to try to pinpoint conditions at the times future complaints would be reported.

Those attending the meeting visited the Mabey property with Patriot and RSG representatives to see the equipment that had been put in place.

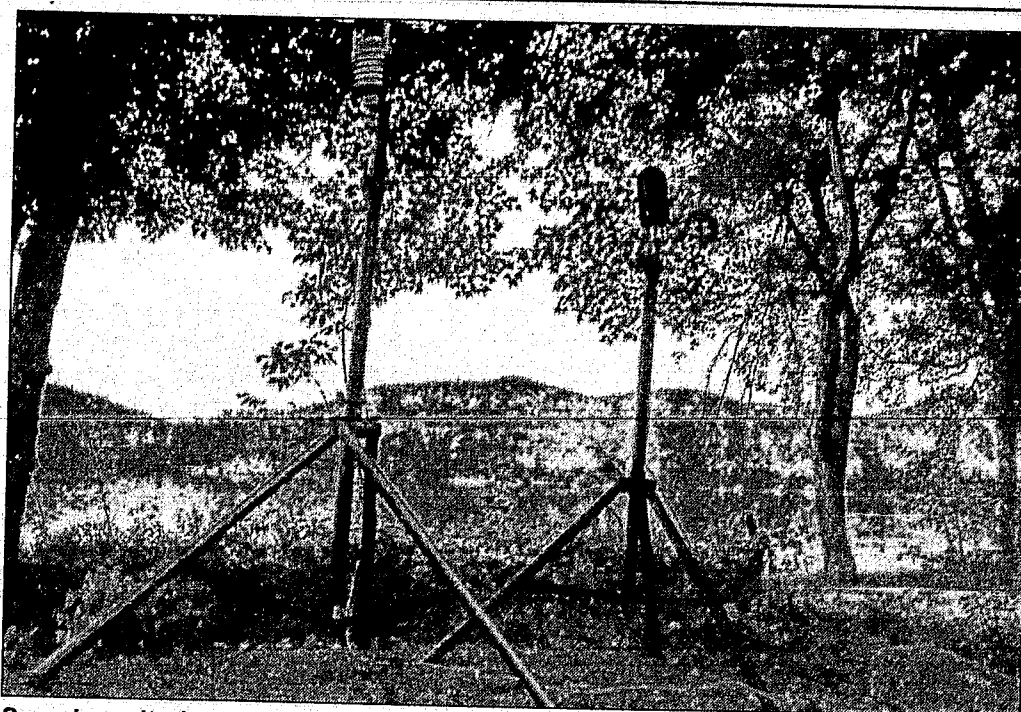
Some residents told Patriot that for them, it was difficult to go from the usual quiet or background noise of singing birds to the repetitive sound of turning blades.

Following that meeting, for a total of three weeks in August and September the monitoring equipment recorded decibel levels as well as temperature, humidity, wind direction and other factors that might affect the sound propagation in a way that was annoying to some.

The residents were asked to notify Patriot whenever the sound was at a level that concerned them, so RSG could analyze the data at those times in particular.

At Tuesday's Woodstock selectmen's meeting RSG presented the results to the board.

RSG engineer Ken Kaliski defined and presented data on sound frequency, pressure and power to try to describe how sound is generated by the tur-



Sound monitoring equipment at the Mabey camp on Concord Pond. SMW towers are across the the pond.

(Photo: A. Aloisio)

bines. He said in addition to evaluating data when complaints were lodged, he had sampled sound recordings every 10 minutes over the period of the monitoring.

The only times the decibel levels exceeded the permitted limits were when birds, insects, rain or people were making noise near the equipment, he said. After those sounds were filtered out, the decibel levels were between 23 and 32 decibels.

Kaliski also played recordings of the turbine

and background sound, which those in the room had difficulty hearing.

There were no violations of permit conditions at Concord Pond, he said.

According to the RSG written report, "We found no clear trend, but periods of audibility and notifications from neighbors were more likely during certain periods that primarily corresponded with higher winds from the northwest during the night."

"We postulate that turbine noise may be more noticeable during these

times because the north side of Concord Pond is shielded from northwest winds by Davis Mountain, thus reducing background wind-induced noise.

"However, we cannot be definitive about this relationship, since the wind turbines were operating almost exclusively with northwest winds during the monitoring periods, and notifications of high sound levels were also received when winds were from the opposite direction."

Peter Guldberg of Tech

Environmental, which did an independent review of the RSG monitoring for the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, reached a similar conclusion.

The wind turbines, he said in a letter, are most audible "late at night and in the early morning hours, when background sound levels can be well below 30 dBA. The residents who have filed complaints are evidently characterizing any audible turbine sound from SMW during those times as 'high' because at those times it is the most noticeable sound."

After Tuesday's presentation, Selectman Steve Bies was critical of communication glitches that had made it difficult during the summer for residents to reach a "hot line" set aside for complaints.

Presson said callers had mistakenly gotten a hot line intended for construction-related concerns while the wind farm was under construction in 2011. He said he did not realize that line was still operating.

But, said Bies, "It was your responsibility to inform them how to contact you. It's not their responsibility for getting through."

Presson apologized for

the problem.

Bies was also critical of an attempt by Patriot last summer to get permission from DEP to remove required permanent monitoring equipment near the wind turbines on Spruce Mountain.

Presson said there had been technical difficulties, and after gathering enough data to show the turbines were in compliance, they applied to discontinue monitoring.

"But after there were objections [from residents] we decided to work through the problems," he said.

Selectman Rick Young commented that he knew of two camp owners on Concord Pond who "to this day have never heard [the turbines]."

Special town meeting

In other business Tuesday, selectmen set a date of Dec. 18 at 6 p.m. for a special town meeting to transfer funds to cover overdrafts in the paving, winter roads and municipal utilities accounts that total \$24,843.

The funds would be transferred from the Overlay Account, which currently has \$44,995 in it.

Selectmen also approved a bid of \$3,200 a year from Andre's Construction to plow the Billings Hill Road.

Skiers

Continued from page 1

MATTERHORN

SKI BAR

HALL OF FAME

THE MATTERHORN IS HONORED BY THE PRESENCE & MEMORABILIA FROM FAMOUS SKIERS & SNOWSPORTS CELEBRITIES.

THIS IS THE *Hard Rock* OF SKIING!

tures of several downhill racing skiers who competed in the inaugural "Birds of Prey" downhill race at Beaver Creek, Colo., in 1997.

The poster also provides Beaudoin a trivia question. Although it states the race was Dec. 5, 1997, the race actually took place

Dec. 4.

Signatures include Kristian Ghedina, a former World Cup racer from Italy, and Bob Beattie, an American ski coach from the 1960s.

"Next year we'll find some other famous U.S. skiers," said Beaudoin.

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PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to Title 28 MRSA 252 -- a notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held on December 17, 2012 at the Bethel Town Office to consider a Liquor License and Entertainment Permit renewal from Sunday River Brewing Co. located at 29 Sunday River Rd. Public comment will be heard at that time. Prior to the hearing date written comment may be issued to the Bethel Town Office or email at info@bethelmaine.org

Christen Mason
Town Clerk

FIREWOOD

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392-2051

Matterhorn

Ski Bar

Sunday River, Maine

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Crockett

Continued from page 1

two laws that affect education: charter schools and a physical restraint law.

Charter schools are publicly funded schools that are operated and governed independently of the traditional public school system, according to the Maine Department of Education. State education aid follows students from the district in which they live to the charter schools in which they enroll.

The charter school process is in its infancy and there may still be "kinks to be worked out," said Crockett. "We don't want to cause damage to public schools, but we want to provide options for students," he said. "It's a balancing act."

Another education law tightened restrictions on the situations in which teachers may use physical restraint on students. But recent reports from schools describe circumstances in which teachers have been afraid to touch misbehaving students for fear of violating the law.

Crockett said the law may need to be revisited.

Among regulatory changes that the Legislature did get right, said Crockett, were the restructuring of the Land Use Regulation Commission and the tightening of rules governing welfare.

LURC, now known as the Land Use Planning Commission, oversees planning and conservation in the state's Unorganized Territories. Gov. Paul LePage's administration originally supported a bill eliminating LURC and giving its responsibilities to the counties. Instead, a compromise was reached to preserve statewide oversight but reform the makeup of commission itself to include representatives from Maine's eight largest counties, including Oxford County.

Another accomplishment, said Crockett, was reform that increased penalties for welfare fraud, and steps such as limiting to five years the amount

of time people can be on Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and eliminating benefits to welfare clients found to be using drugs.

"The people who have a legitimate need are the ones we need to protect," he said.

Health insurance
Another reform, on which he believes the jury is still out, is the change in the law covering Maine health insurance.

Instead of requiring insurance companies to offer policies to everyone regardless of their health, the new law created a separate fund to cover high-risk/high cost individuals. The fund is supported by a tax on premiums on other insurance.

For other people buying insurance, premiums can vary according to age and geographic location. The intent is to lower premiums for statistically healthier younger people, thus encouraging them to buy insurance. That would grow the overall pool of people and lower everyone's premiums, according to the plan. The system is also intended to mesh with the upcoming ACA requirement for everyone to have health insurance.

In addition, more insurance companies would be brought into the Maine market by allowing the sale of policies across state lines.

But there have been complaints that since the Maine law took effect in July, premiums among some individual policy holders and small businesses have risen significantly. Democrats, who will now control the Legislature, have indicated they want changes.

However, said Crockett, the law will not be fully implemented until 2013, when people can buy insurance out-of-state, so he believes it's too early to make a final judgment. Companies currently providing insurance in Maine have been given until 2013

to wrap up their books, he said, before the market is opened to other states.

In the larger health insurance picture, Crockett was asked if Maine should set up its own insurance "exchange" for 2013 to comply with the Affordable Care Act ("Obamacare"), or let the federal government impose its own framework for an exchange. Since the ACA was passed in 2010, many states have been working on such exchanges, which are intended to provide one-stop shopping for people to compare available health plans.

But Maine, like other states that have resisted the ACA in the hope it would be overturned by the Supreme Court or repealed with the election of Mitt Romney as president, has held off on developing an exchange. State leaders are divided on whether there is now enough time left to craft an effective Maine plan, or whether it is better to simply accept the imposition of the federal one.

Crockett said for him, it depends on "what our options are for amending it later. Nobody gets it right the first time, especially when you talk about something this large."

As for the state's option to expand the number of people covered by Medicaid under the ACA, Crockett wants to know where the money will come from. "I would look at it with an open mind," he said.

Gov. LePage has said he opposes expansion. Those on the other side of the issue argue that Maine residents would then pay federal taxes to support the expansion in other states without any benefit here, while at the same time the insured in Maine would indirectly subsidize the uninsured by paying higher premiums.

Conservation bonds, governor
Crockett disagrees with the governor's decision to hold back on issuing bonds approved by voters

in a 2010 referendum for the purchase of conservation lands.

LePage cites the state's current fiscal problems as his reason.

But, said Crockett, "If the people of Maine pass it, it's not for the governor to second guess. How does democracy work if you don't respect what the voters do?"

He used the analogy of his own objection to the establishment of a casino in Oxford by referendum. "Now that it's here I've got to respect it," he said. "It's not for me to judge."

Asked how he would rate the governor's job performance, Crockett said that to date, "some positives have been laid at his feet that were also the result of bipartisan action that was already in the works."

But he rated as good LePage's proposal to stretch out payments to the state on the upcoming extension of liquor lease rights to a private contractor, in order to bring in more money over time.

Crockett also looked to the future for the final judgment on the governor.

"His legacy will be determined in the next two years in working with a Legislature that's not controlled by his own party," said Crockett. "His positions will have to be defensible, well-thought-out and reasonable. He's going to have to compromise. It's going to be interesting."

Both the governor and Legislature will be tested as they wrestle with expected revenue shortfalls in the coming year.

"I'm hopeful we'll be able to negotiate a solution," said Crockett. "The big emphasis would be this is not Washington. We're required to have a balanced budget."

Ethics bill
Crockett will be the lead sponsor for this session on a legislative ethics bill. He said that currently, an outgoing legislator can become a lobbyist the day after he/she leaves office. He doesn't think that's right.

"There's no waiting period," he said. "Why shouldn't you take a year off?"

XC

Continued from page 1

An interim Board of Directors, of which Cooper is a member, is overseeing the Outdoor Center organization. Other directors include Wade Kavanaugh, Tracyn Thayer, Carlie Casey and Sarah Weaver.

The three-center ski pass is known as a Bethel Pass. Individual season passes cost \$160, and a family season pass \$330.

"I'm excited that someone can walk into town and buy a ticket and ski anywhere," said Cooper.

He said the joint pass offer is similar to ones among ski areas in the Mt. Washington Valley region of New Hampshire.

David and Anne Carter, owners of Carter's Cross-Country Ski Center, said the pass will also be good at their Oxford ski center.

"This is a great way to attract more people, and

get them skiing at all three places," said Anne. "We all offer unique things in our trail systems. It's a good thing to join forces."

Workshop

The Outdoor Center will host its first event, a ski leader workshop by Lauren Jacobs of Health Hometowns, on Dec. 16.

Down the road, the Outdoor Center may work cooperatively with the group working to bring recreational trails to Bethel's new Bingham Forest, but for the immediate future the best plan is likely to work as two separate groups, Cooper said.

"We all have our hands full with what we're doing now," he said.

For more information on the Outdoor Center and passes go to www.caribou-recreation.com/#the-outdoor-center-membership.

Briefly

Selectmen award timber bid

BETHEL—Bethel selectmen Monday awarded the bid for a timber harvest on Mt. Will to Day Brothers, Inc. of Otisfield, according to Town Manager Jim Doar. The town will receive an estimated total of \$11,947 for the sale of timber. Andrew Ames of Waterford bid higher, at a total of \$12,059, but did not submit a required \$1,000 deposit. The other three bids were all lower: \$11,813 from Thomas Richards of Oxford; \$10,368 from Freeman Coriveau of Newry; and \$10,183 from SAPP Fine Paper of Skowhegan. Day's bid includes the chipping of branches for biomass fuel. In other business, selectmen approved the transfer of \$10,000 to \$20,000 from money that had been set aside to replace a fire truck to go toward the replacement of a pump on another Fire Department truck. The board also agreed to modify a recent memorandum of understanding with the Bethel Water District regarding the Bingham Forest. The change specifies that the BWD will have a voting representative on a town committee that will manage the forest and facilities on district land. But selectmen declined a BWD request to retain indefinitely lease payments on approximately 20 acres of Bingham Forest land from Sunday River Ski Resort. The town wants the arrangement to end in 2028. The lease payment this year was approximately \$6,000, according to Doar.

Story idea?

Call 824-2444, or e-mail news@bethelcitizen.com



The Way I See It

by Sharon Bouchard

It's that time of the year when the little kids are giddy with anticipation of Santa's annual visit and everything that goes along with the holiday.

They watch all the Christmas specials on television with rapt attention and wide-eye excitement while visions of their Christmas wish list dance in their heads.

The closer it gets to the big day the more excited and hyperactive the little ones become. Every day a parent is asked, "How many more days until Santa comes?" And the closer it gets the more they will drive their parents crazy.

My advice is that no matter how hyperactive your children become and no matter how crazy they make you, enjoy every second of it because it's over all too soon. Before you know it your now 5 year old who is bouncing off the walls with excitement will become a 13 year old glued to a video game and the magic of Christmas isn't as magical anymore.

My grandsons, who are now ages 16 and 13, are the apples of my eye, but this is the time of the year I truly miss the little buggers they used to be.

As little munchkins they made my Christmas as magical as their own. It's not that they don't enjoy and look forward to Christmas because they certainly do, but they no longer believe in the magic that so excited them when they were little. Frosty the Snowman and Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer hold little entertainment value compared to latest Call

of Duty video game. The colorful lights of the holiday season don't hold a candle to the light shows of a rock concert.

There are some nice things about the boys being young adults. They are more involved in holiday planning and even the decorating.

Instead of being awed by stories about Christmas of my younger years they awe me with stories of Christmas of their younger years.

The Magic of Christmas

It has been in the sharing of these stories that I realize that I have lived a vicarious child's Christmas through the eyes of my children when they were little and then my grandchildren and now I want it back!

I have decided that this year I am going to regress about 60 years and become a child again. I'm going to look at everything about Christmas through my memories of so long ago, assuming that I can remember them.

Rather than watch adult dramas like Law and Order or CSI I'm going to watch the Grinch Who Stole Christmas and A Christmas Carol. I'm going to look at the Christmas tree as an enchanted presence in my living room instead of something that I have to water every day and

sweep up the fallen needles. Who knows, I might even sit on Santa's lap and tell him what I want him to bring me on Christmas Eve.

Okay, maybe I won't sit on Santa's lap. It would probably be seen as something kinky by and old lady and I'd probably break Santa's knee, but there is no reason why I can't recapture some of my childhood excitement and awe.

When I bake some Christmas cookies I can try to recall the aroma in my mother's kitchen when she took a batch out of the oven and told me I could decorate them when they cooled off.

When I see a Christmas show on television I can recall watching the same show sitting on my father's lap while he told me he would let me pick out the Christmas tree he would chop down the next day.

When I see the colored light displays in store windows I can recall the lights that used to be strung across Main Street and how all the stores were open every night until Christmas Eve.

And on Christmas Eve I will try to recall how excited I was and how I fought the temptation to sneak out of bed to peek under the tree to see if Santa had come yet.

I know I can't go back to my childhood and I can't turn back the hands of time on my children and grandchildren, but the way I see it if we could all see Christmas through the eyes of a child or our own childhoods what a wonderful Christmas it would surely be.

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Return by January 17, 2013 to: Nominating Committee, Oxford Federal Credit Union, P.O. Box 252, Mexico, ME 04257

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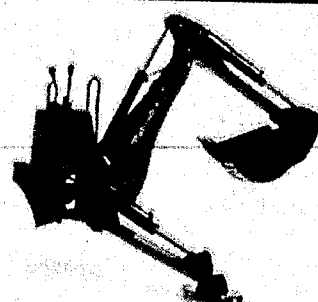
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OCSD Patrol Log

Tuesday, Nov. 27

At 12:10 p.m. Cpl. Justin Brown responded to the Andrews Hill Road in Woodstock for a civil issue that was starting to turn into a criminal issue. Warnings were issued, no charges were warranted.

At 10:32 a.m. Lt. Tom Harriman completed a domestic violence followup in Mason Township.

Wednesday, Nov. 28

At 12:09 p.m. a complainant reported a vehicle had hit him while they were in the two lanes coming from West Bethel into Bethel on Route 2. Deputy Dani Welch responded. The second vehicle was not located.

At 2:56 p.m. Lt. Chris Wainwright conducted a background check for a concealed weapons permit on the East Bethel Road in Bethel.

Thursday, Nov. 29

(Time not available) Deputy Matt Noyes spoke to a group of Cub Scouts in Bethel about things they could do to assist law enforcement.

At 2:19 p.m. Deputy Willie Nelson responded to Mechanic Street in Bethel for a report of a burglary.

At 7:01 p.m. Deputy Nathan Bowie responded to the West Bethel Road in Bethel for a report of theft.

At 3:10 a.m. Cpl. Justin Brown found a vehicle off the road on Route 26 in Grafton Notch. There were no injuries or damage. A tow truck was called.

Friday, Nov. 30

At 10:57 a.m. Deputy Mike Halacy issued final protection from abuse paperwork to a subject on Mayville Road in Bethel.

Saturday, Dec. 1

At 10:57 a.m. Cpl. Chancey Libby responded to Howe Hill Road in Greenwood for a report of burglary. It appeared someone was staying at the location. The complainant said the property was bank-owned and no one should be staying there.

At 3:17 p.m. on the West Bethel Road in Bethel a driver lost control of his car, striking a fence post. There were no injuries.

At 7:15 a.m. on the Barker Mountain Road in Newry a driver slid off the road and struck a parked truck. There were no injuries.

Sunday, Dec. 2

At 8:16 a.m. a vehicle slid off the Walkers Mills Road. There were no injuries. Cpl. Justin Brown responded.

At 10:19 a.m. Cpl. Justin Brown responded to the Gilead Road in Gilead for a tractor trailer that slid off the road. The vehicle jackknifed but the driver recovered control. There was damage to the cab and trailer.

At 11:59 a.m. Deputy Chris Davis responded to Route 35 in Albany for a traffic accident with injuries.

At 12:11 p.m. Cpl. Justin Brown responded to the Mayville Road for a verbal dispute. Disorderly conduct warnings were given.

At 1:30 p.m. Cpl. Justin Brown responded to the Songo Pond Road in Bethel for a vehicle that slid off the road. There were no injuries.

At 2:47 p.m. Cpl. Justin Brown and Deputy Chris Davis responded to Mason Street in Bethel for a verbal dispute.

At 4:47 p.m. Deputy Nathan Bowie responded to the Walkers Mills Road in Bethel for a vehicle accident.

Bethel

By NANCY BROWN



Winter is my favorite season. I particularly love December with the holiday

lights and decorations. I didn't get to some of the tree lightings last week because of the icy roads, but I did drive through town on Sunday to look at the holiday lights. The Christmas trees are now lit up on lower Main Street and the Common. The gazebo is decorated with evergreen boughs, red ribbons, and lights. One of my favorite shops this time of year is Maine Line Products on Route 26 in Locke's Mills. Outside, the store is decorated with hundreds of colored lights, and Santa Claus sits in a giant snow globe with snow falling all around him.

Charles Dickens described the holiday season

as "A good time, a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time: the only time I know of in the long calendar of the year, when men and women seem by one consent to open their hearts up freely, and think of other people." Dickens called this his "Carol Philosophy," after his story, "A Christmas Carol."

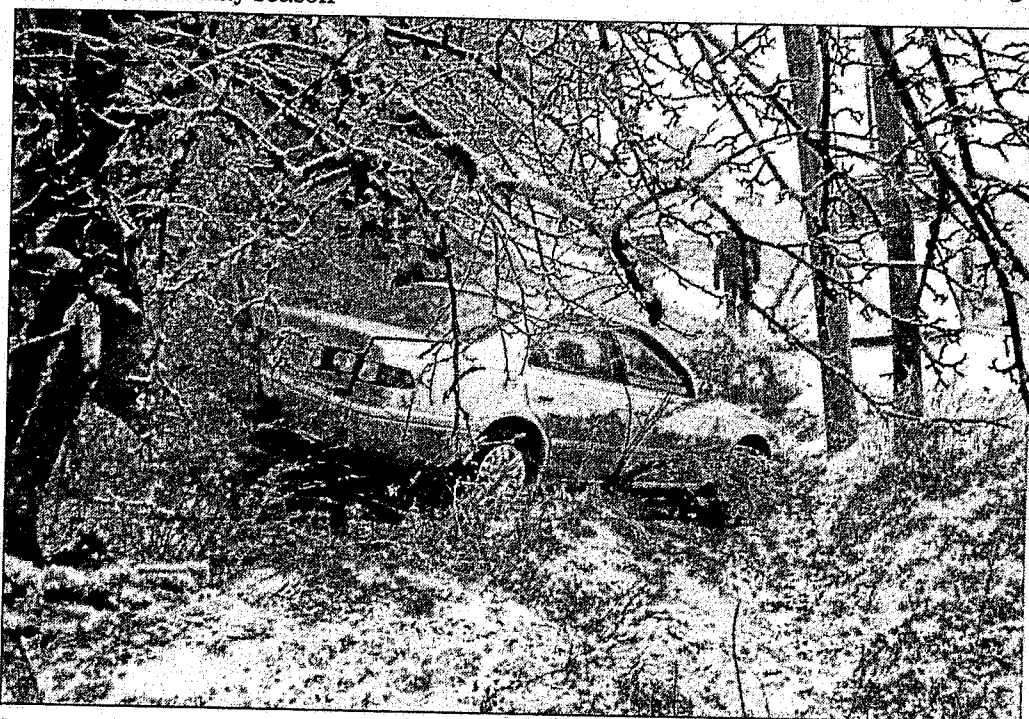
In December we celebrate not just Christmas, but two other holidays, where people also open their hearts to their communities. Hanukkah begins at sunset this Saturday, Dec. 8, and ends at nightfall on Dec. 16. Kwanzaa is celebrated Dec. 26 through Jan. 1.

This weekend the Senior College Players will present two Christmas plays: "Memories of a Wonderful Life" by Jonathan M. Zaley and "A Child's Christmas in Wales" by Dylan Thomas. Curtain times are Friday, Dec. 7, at 7 p.m., and Sat-

urday, Dec. 8 at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the Moses Mason House, 14 Broad Street in Bethel. These are audience-participation plays, so you might be asked to join the cast on stage or just join in a song. Admission is free. Donations will be accepted to help with the royalty fees.

The Crescent Park School fifth-grade students are working hard to raise money for their Boston trip in the spring. This Saturday you can help them by having your picture taken with Santa. It's only \$5 and the proceeds go to the fifth-grade class trip. The place is Breakfast with Santa at Crescent Park School on Saturday, Dec. 8, from 9 to 11 a.m. There will be music, crafts, and free breakfast.

The ponds and lakes are covered in a thin layer of ice and snow. Don't be fooled though. The ice is not thick enough to walk on yet. There was enough



NO INJURIES-This car went off the road on Walkers Mills Road (Route 26) just south of Telstar on Sunday morning during icy road conditions. The car skidded and spun around on the ice and snow, just missing a utility pole and an apple tree. The two occupants were unhurt. The car was towed out and the couple was able to drive off. Many people stopped to offer help.

(Photo: N. Brown)

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ice on the roads this weekend, however, to cause hazardous driving conditions and chaos on local roads. On Sunday morning at 8:30 my mother and I looked out the window to see a car in the ditch under our apple tree. The young couple in the car had left Boston at 4:30 a.m., hoping to spend the day skiing at Sunday River. Instead their car skidded in the ice and snow on the road, spun around, and ended up off the road. After Gaudreau's Repairs towed them out of the ditch, they continued north on Route 26. The good news is that they were unhurt and that many people stopped to offer them help.

If you have news you'd like to share, call me at 824-2483 or e-mail nancybrown1150@yahoo.com.

East Bethel

By WALLY RITZ



Time sure flies when one is having fun. Last week my friend Fred and his friend Helmut were here from Germany to visit me for a couple of days. It was nice getting caught up on how their families are doing and all the happenings in my hometown and Europe in general.

Neil Olson told me that both their daughters, Jill and Carrie, along with their families came for Thanksgiving dinner. They all had a great time together.

Ryan Stowell and his fiancée Caterina, Lee and Jennifer Norris, Jarrod and Paige Crockett, and little Teddy spent Thanksgiving with their Mom,

Aline Dupont. Gerard Dupont, Aline's dad, was with them also on this special day.

Bettyann Hastings and Sonny went to New Hampshire to Jack and Julie Warwick for Thanksgiving. They were joined by Jeff Hastings and family, Eric Hastings and family and Jay Hastings, plus many more friends and family. All had a great time. Ellen and Scott Franklin were missed, yet all were together in thought.

On Wednesday Jarrod Crockett was being sworn in to the Legislature, so Paige, Ann, Butch and Teddy went to be there with him. Congratulations, again, Jarrod!

Please, call me at 824-3220 or e-mail han@megalink.net with your news or whatever you would like to share. Or come see me at the InnSide Shop. We are having a drawing for a Simon Pearce vase.

Oh, and on the funny side (and no offense intended, please) rumor has it that someone got a new camera, which he claims, is so good and fast that he can actually take a picture of a woman with her mouth shut. Hahaha, now who would say something like that, can you guess? Have a great week.

Gilead

By LIN CHAPMAN



I suppose since this is the first weekend in December, we should expect this cold and snow. The roads have been slippery and causing a few area accidents. The weatherman



WHO NEEDS RUDOLPH?—On Sunday 292 skiing and snowboarding Santas took to the slopes of Sunday River Resort and skied through foggy conditions to raise money for the Bethel Rotary's annual holiday toy drive. To participate, guests were required to pre-register on Nov. 30, and then asked to come to the resort wearing a Santa suit, including the hat, beard, coat, belt, and pants. The minimum donation required to participate was \$10. Thanks to hundreds of Santas donations, the Bethel Rotary was able to raise \$2,110 for their holiday toy drive. This was the 13th year Sunday River has held Santa Sunday—a tradition that kicks off the holiday season for the resort. In addition to being able to give back, participants were given a free lift ticket for the day, as well as another lift ticket to use any time before Dec. 15. (Photo courtesy Sunday River Ski Resort)

predicted that the weather will get warmer over the next few days, so I am hoping he is right!

My brother, Steve McLain, stopped at the house Saturday and said that he was going to go down the North Road to see if Brad was at home.

Steve and Lise McLain attended the Rotary Club breakfast last Sunday. They were joined by Brad McLain and his wife, Carole Mason, Ryan Seames and his daughter, Olivia.

Danny Cole is recovering from his recent surgery. Get well wishes go

out to Dan.

The Gilead Fire Department was called out for a chimney fire last Friday on the North Road. Bethel Fire and Shelburne Fire responded for mutual aid. Newry Fire was also toned out but returned to base when it was determined that the fire was under control. Many thanks to the mutual aid departments.

Area Wildlife

Not too much to report on new birds. Last Sunday, there was a Hairy Woodpecker at the bird feeder. The birds seem to

like the "bird patty" that I made and put out. Mary Tyler called last Saturday and said that she had seen a Brown-headed Cowbird out on the ground with the other birds that she had been feeding. The crows have also returned to look for food. There was some kind of a hawk out behind the house last Sunday, also. We just caught a glimpse of it before it headed in the direction of the Androscoggin River.

There was also a report that someone had seen a young bear on the Bog Road.

Gilead Historical Society

The GHS still has some 2013 calendars for sale at the bargain price of \$5 each. Mary Tyler sold a few at the craft fairs that she attended.

Town Office

Real Estate Tax payments are coming in on a regular basis. All unpaid taxes as of Dec. 31 will be listed in the annual town report.

Dog licenses are due before the end of January or a late fee will be applied.

Got any news? Call 836-2987 or e-mail chapmal@hotmail.com

Upton

By JOE BERNIER



The Upton Community Christmas Party was lots of fun. Charlotte

opened with a story about Jesus and then Deborah read "Twas The Night Before Christmas." The children recited poems and sang carols. The food, gifts and games were all enjoyed and Santa was a big success with the children and the adults.

The Ladies Aid plan to resume Sunday breakfasts in January.

The selectmen are scheduled to meet Dec. 11 in the town office.

Kathy Kahler wrote new words to a poem by Robert Herrick; this is her version:

Gather ye firewood while ye may

Old temps they are at dropping.

Mother Nature's cold and snow

No man shall e'er be stoppin.

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If your copy of the Upton Column was blurred and smudged last week, it was not my fault. If you thought that I stopped writing in almost mid-sentence, again it was not my doing. The column was cut short in the Citizen, but was complete online.

This is the way the last of the column was written and sent: I have been informed that I owe an apology to the Upton House cat. It seems that she is overweight and took offense to my comments about her sitting under the bird feeder and waiting for a meal to drop in. After learning of what I wrote about her, she hid in the barn for four days. When she finally came out, she would not look her owners in the eyes for three more days.

Penny has been searching on the Internet for a cat psychologist.

Call 533-2010 or e-mail backstjoe@gmail.com with your news.

Hanover

By CLEM WORCESTER



It is the season for Christmas shopping and gatherings. Let us remind you one last time about the Hanover tree lighting and gathering. It will start at 6 p.m. this Saturday, Dec. 8, at the Town Office for the tree lighting and then a walk or ride through Hanover streets to the Town House at 12 Howard Pond Road for a social gathering of friends and neighbors. Everyone is welcome.

Can you believe it? We made a mistake! Anyone licensing a dog capable of producing offspring is required to pay the fee of \$11. Spayed or neutered dogs only cost \$6. Remember to license your dog soon because the end of the year is coming right up. A portion of the licensing fee is used to help fight animal abuse in Maine.

Another animal story. Fifty-eight deer were tagged at Gordie Howe's Store before the muzzle-loader season started. While we are at it, the 2013 hunting and fishing licenses are now available at the Hanover Town Office. They are not only great Christmas gifts but anyone might avoid missing a hunting or fishing

trip on Jan. 1 for lack of a license.

What an adventure! We took our twin granddaughters to a Mexico shopping center last weekend to visit Santa. What we were expecting was far from reality, as both Shawnee and Makala took their turn on Santa's knee and were patient enough to sit with each other for a third picture with Santa. Despite a day of snow, freezing rain and rain, all the shopping centers appeared to be quite busy.

Condolences are extended to D.A. Wilson and family on the passing of Rita.

Skip and Jen Mendenhall from the Howard Pond Road are receiving congratulations on the birth of their first child, a boy.

Get well wishes go to Wilma Rector who recently has been feeling poorly but is now reported as a little better.

Locke's Mills

By BETSEY FOSTER



Twenty-seven notices of pending foreclosure were mailed from the town office last week. The deadline for payment is Dec. 28, and Town Manager Kim Sparks said most everyone pays their overdue taxes and fees by that date. Dogs need to be licensed by Dec. 31. It is \$6 for those spayed/neutered; \$11 for "fully-equipped." There is a 30-day grace period that ends Feb. 1. At that time, owners will be assessed a \$25 late fee.

Anyone out there remember the old pin-up lamps that were popular in the 1950s? Recently I needed one and went online searching for them. They were not easy to find and the few available were \$90 and up. Too rich for my pocketbook.

I recalled my mother had one she bought many years ago at Maine Line Products. Out of curiosity I stopped at their store in Locke's Mills, and, lo and behold, they carried them. In fact, they make them. The only problem was their lamps had brown electrical cords and I needed white. Not a problem. They offered to make me one with a white cord if I brought the cord to them.

What a service! Not only did they make the lamp, they lowered the price because I had supplied the cord. And their price was a fraction of what these lamps were online. At a time when it seems that customer service is dying, it is alive and well right here in Locke's Mills. Certainly a good reason to shop local.

The Mt. Abram trail lights were on all night last weekend for the first time this winter. Rather picturesque with light snow falling.

Lorraine Larson and Ralph and Lorene Mills were among the guests at a Thanksgiving dinner, Sunday, Nov. 25, at the home of Lorene's mother, Laura Hutchins, in East Andover. Also present were Lorene's brother, Greg Adams, wife Fran, her mother, Eleanor Far-

ington from Sweden, Maine, Lorene's Aunt Lenora "Peggy" Blake of South Paris, and Lorene's children and grandchildren, Miranda Konkright, husband Mat, children Blythe and Melia; and Preston Cobb with his significant other, Abbie Hutchins. Everyone had a very good dinner and a fun afternoon as Mandy and Preston, with Lorene verifying, pulled out one memory after another about their lives growing up.

Mandy wrote these down to give to sister Calla Cobb who is preparing a booklet to give to people in the family for Christmas presents. Blythe Konkright was also surprised with cake, ice cream, and presents in honor of her sixth birthday Nov. 24.

A young beaver has been swimming in front of Jane and Jim Chandler's home on North Pond. Jane mentioned this only a few days after I had spent an afternoon exploring in a beaver habitat in Andover and checking out their handiwork.

Wendy Hutchins (Wheeler to those of us with long memories) and I walked out an old logging road north of Andover to a small beaver pond with dams on each end. Nothing unusual there. What was new to me was seeing the trails and the "clear cut" the beavers had made over the years.

Their trails were as well constructed as any hiking trail only they were cut for short creatures. The trails led to a small clear cut area in the woods. The beavers had harvested the trees there, dragged them out along the trails, down the pond bank, and floated the logs to their dam sites. Some beavers have been reported to walk on their hind legs as they carry logs out through the woods. That would certainly be something to see. Beavers harvest many young trees before the ponds freeze solid and store them under the ice at their lodges. They eat these during the winter when the ponds are frozen and snow-covered.

Please send news to 3tachi6@gmail.com

Bryant Pond

By ALICE HOYT



The Whitman Memorial Library program will be today, Dec. 6, at the Library. Time: 2 p.m. Charlotte Winchester will be leading a Christmas craft project of Christmas tree ornaments. Supplies will be provided. If you have a glue gun, please bring it. Public is invited, no charge, light refreshments.

The Woodstock-Greenwood Senior Citizens will meet today, Dec. 6, at the American Legion Hall, Locke's Mills, for a meeting, dinner by the Auxiliary and program by the Forestdale School children. If you wish to exchange gifts, bring one. Cards may be exchanged. If you want to, bring an item for the food pantry and Christmas for Kids.

Franklin Grange will meet on Saturday, Dec. 8 at 10 a.m. at the Grange Hall for a meeting, Christmas party and dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. James Hoyt had their Thanksgiving dinner on Wednesday so Maggie Hoyt and friend Whitney of Washington, DC, and Joseph Hoyt and friend Kelsey of Edgcomb could be present to join the family.

Ken and I enjoyed two Thanksgiving dinners, as we joined Jim and Charlene Hoyt on Wednesday

and our family all joined Leatrice Chase and family on Thursday. Twenty-two were present at Leatrice's, Marybeth Hoover and her cat, Rufus, visited with us from Thanksgiving to Sunday.

Services at the Baptist Church are Sunday school at 9:15, Morning Worship at 10:30, Evening Service at 6 p.m. Wednesday is Prayer Meeting at 6:30. Tuesday, Dec. 11, we will be hosting the "Plant and Root Maine" rally. Service starts at 7 p.m. Fellowship time following the service. Children's Christmas Program will be on Dec. 16 at 6 p.m. Everyone welcome. There will be a candlelight service on Sunday evening, Dec. 23, at 6 p.m.

Andover

By JANE RICH



Congratulations to Cody Smith who has been named a WCSH 6 Teen Who Cares. Perhaps you have seen the TV spot which cites Cody's service to the Andover and Rumford Fire Departments as a Junior Fire Fighter and his volunteer work at Victorian Villa.

Family and friends gathered Saturday afternoon at the CEB to celebrate the 80th birthday of Owen Morton. The affair was planned by his children. It was a surprise and Owen was totally surprised. It's very difficult to keep a secret like that in Andover. Among local guests was Owen's son Tom who had come from Florida for this special occasion.

This Saturday, Dec. 8, what some of us call Christmas in Snow Valley will find Andover full of crafters at three sites, the Fire Station, Town

Hall, and CEB building of the First Congregational Church. The church site will open at 8:30 a.m. with coffee and Shirley's donuts, while the other locations will open at 9 a.m. At the CEB there will be a bake sale and lunch will be served and there will be a raffle, The Taste of Andover delivered in a handmade sleigh. The Christmas Table will feature decorations and floral arrangements. Santa will be visiting the Fire Station at 2 p.m. In addition the library will have an open house from 1 to 4 p.m. and will be raffling a basket of goodies. So come to town and enjoy Christmas Andover style.

The snowmobile club will have had their meeting last evening, Dec. 5, so next week I will be able to let you know about the staffing of the club house for the winter and other projects of the club.

Albany

By CATHY BENNETT



December arrived on Saturday bringing with it a little snow and an icy frosting on the trees. Sure helps to put us in the Christmas spirit. Jane and Margaret Barton went shopping in Conway on Wednesday. Last Sunday Jane Wardwell, Margaret Barton and I went to hear Philip House play at Deering Memorial Church in South Paris. It was a very enjoyable event.

Everyone is busy getting ready for the upcoming holidays.

I will continue watching the Steelers' football game against the Ravens; sure hope the Ravens win. Really enjoyed the Patriots and Dolphins game. Go Pats!

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Have a good week everyone and remember to share your news with me and I will pass it on.

So. Woodstock

By LOLALEE DILLINGHAM



G'evening dear readers, sorry for no weekly column for the past 3 weeks - with all the bookings the band has to commit to and with the holiday and all.

Condolences to the following families on the loss of their loved ones: Rodney Allen, Irene Richardson, Rita P. Wilson, Mary Robinson, Daniel J. Miclon, Barbara E. Roy, Duane Hayes and Joe Volkerneck. Thoughts and prayers to each family.

Get well wishes are going out to Joyce Hathaway, Louise Guilford, Dotty Packard, Donna Palmer.

Erlon Hadley was surprised at a gathering for him at the Paris Legion Hall recently. This event was planned by his children and grandchildren to help him celebrate his 80th Birthday.

His brothers, Maurice (and Gloria) and Glendon (and Martha) were in attendance, along with great-grandchildren, nephews, nieces, and other family members. Many longtime friends were also in attendance; it was good seeing the family members as we had not seen some of them for quite awhile.

It was a very enjoyable evening and loved the music.

We enjoyed two great Thanksgiving meals with all the fixings - the first one was with 36 friends in Litchfield, 3 turkeys were cooked and there was so much great food to share plus all the desserts that were brought. Most everyone took home a doggie dish to have for the next day.

Then we joined our son Craig and his fiancée April and both families for

a great Thanksgiving supper. Sixteen were in attendance. April and daughter Kayla put together a great meal, loved the homemade turkey stuffing, the squash was just to my liking - everything was just so delicious. April made homemade pies and some of us brought other homemade desserts to share. I also donated four dozen homemade yeast rolls for the occasion.

After supper Yogi drove Gordon and Celia home. What an awesome get-together with family and future in-laws!

Celebrating December birthdays are Bill Grover, George DeWitt, Brenda DeWitt, Dell Parker, Cleo Ryerson, Jane Roberts, Jim Mason, Jr., Lyndon Mason, Rachel Grover, Laurie Wilson, Paul Benson, Alex Poland, Roni Grover, Jr., Christopher Wilday.

Anniversary wishes are going out to Kevin and Natasha Hodson and Randy and Tia Gladden.

Well that's all from the valley this week; stay well and happy.

Waterford

By ROCKIE GRAHAM



Well with 2 1/2 weeks left until winter officially begins, we had our first snow/

ice/rain storm of the season. The van wasn't running well, so David took my Rav4 to work on Sunday. I stayed home, as the road was too icy for me to want to walk, especially given that Tasha wasn't here to need a walk. I just lay low, kept the home fire burning (literally), did laundry and made supper. I also read a book on the Lyme disease diet. It is a bit confusing because one book says one thing and the next something slightly different. I guess I am ahead of most as I have been on a similar diet for years being intolerant of wheat and dairy anyway.

Still and all, when I see an ad for macaroni and cheese, I look at it with longing.

Thursday, Dec. 6, ACOA will meet at the Waterford Library at 10 a.m. We will be restarting in the ACOA workbook at Step 1. New people are more than welcome. FMI and for questions about inclement weather, please call 739-9115.

Friday, Dec. 7, at 1 p.m. at the Maine Veteran's Home, 477 High Street in South Paris, there will be a Pearl Harbor Remembrance Ceremony. Following that a piece of the U.S.S. Arizona will be put on permanent display.

Dec. 7 at 7 p.m. and Dec. 8 at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. the Senior College Players will present two plays: "A Christmas in Wales" and "Memories of a Wonderful Life" at the Mason House Exhibit Hall at 14 Broad Street in Bethel. Admission is free but donations are accepted to offset Royalty Fees. FMI please contact Lynn Arizzi at 824-0080.

Dec. 8, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., at Fare Share Commons there will be a dinner and silent auction. There will be entertainment and discussion of Fare Share's Past. FMI please call 743-9044.

Tuesday, Dec. 11, there will be a meeting about Tar Sands at 7 p.m. at the Waterford Town Office. For more information please call Earl at 583-6957. If anyone has something they would like to appear in this column please call me at 739-9115. Feel free to leave a message.

That is all for this week. I hope to be back at work this week, but if not, I'll see you next week.

Mason

By RICHARD GROVER



Wild Weasel. As Sam and I acquired more and more "counters" (missions

that counted toward our 100), we began to feel like we were going to survive our tour. I then learned that I had a small personal problem. Sam had three "counters" before we became a Wild Weasel crew, because he had flown three combat missions in SEA while on temporary duty (TDY) there. This meant that Sam would finish 100, and I would be three short, meaning I would have to remain in SEA for a full year unless I could somehow acquire three more combat missions.

Luckily for me, there were several EB-66 aircraft also stationed at Takhli RTAFB, who employed electronic warfare EWOs on their crews, either in an electronic reconnaissance role, collecting and recording radar signals and getting direction finding bearings to determine radar types and approximate locations of radars and SAM sites in North Vietnam, or in active jamming roles, where they operated electronic jammers to try and confuse NVN radars and SAM systems. After checking in with the EB-66 squadron commander, I was given the opportunity to fly on an EB-66 mission where the mission was to fly over the Gulf of Tonkin and jam SAM radars operating in the Haiphong and Hanoi areas. There was an empty seat beside the EWO operating the jamming equipment in the bomb bay of the aircraft, so I accepted the offer to accompany them. This looked like a piece of cake mission to me, because we only crossed over the southernmost corner of NVN and entered the Gulf. If by some fluke, the NVN sent a MIG over the Gulf and shot us down there, the Navy owned that ocean and had an excellent record of picking up downed pilots in the water. As we orbited off the coast of Haiphong, I had nothing to do but get bored with the routine chit-chat

and took a long nap. After the mission, the "real" EB-66 EWO was astonished that I was so cool as to sleep through a combat mission. This further burnished the reputation of Wild Weasel EWOs, who were so "fearless."

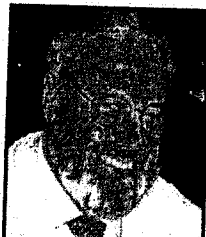
After that mission, one of the other F-105 Weasel pilots found himself without a back seater, for a reason that I now forget. This was an older pilot, nearly 40, who had a reputation for seeing stuff on the ground that none of the other crew members saw: stuff like camouflaged AAA installations, radar sites or other equipment that nobody else saw. Guys thought this pilot was weird, until photo interpreters began seeing the stuff that this pilot had reported during mission debriefings. At any rate, I decided to fly a mission with this pilot and log an "honest" combat mission. Sure enough, we were frugged for a mission into the heart of "SAM country." Shortly after takeoff, I was a bit disconcerted about this pilot's flying technique; while Sam was very smooth and accomplished with all his maneuvers, my "borrowed" pilot was jerky. Every heading change was abrupt, making it feel to me like he was suddenly correcting for drifting off his planned heading, or something. At any rate, I was uneasy for the entire three-hour flight, unlike the relaxed manner that Sam and I usually enjoyed. That feeling threw off my concentration, and I was unsure of the level of danger we were in as we encountered several strong SAM signals and LAUNCH lights. Somehow, we survived, and I vowed to myself never again to get into an aircraft with this pilot!

Shortly after this mission, in September, I think, Papa Bear, our oldest back seat Bear, volunteered for a staff position that opened up at 7th Air Force HQ in Saigon. This left Billy Sparks, one of

the coolest of the Weasel pilots at Takhli, without a back seater. I was lucky to be crewed up with Billy on an easy mission to southern NVN, near the DMZ. This was a routine mission until after we witnessed the B-52 bombs peppering the jungle just west of the DMZ in Laos. As it was a beautiful sunny and clear day, we decided to do a little "road recce," or reconnaissance to see if there were any NVN trucks we could drop our cluster bombs on before we went home. No trucks were evident, but "Sparky" spotted a small fleet of NVN sampans (small sail powered fishing boats) just off shore. We were briefed to not shoot up fishing vessels because that was against the rules of engagement. However, Sparky said, "Watch me blow over one of those Sampans with the afterburner!" "Okay by me," I said. We immediately dropped down to about 20 or 30 feet above the water, doing about 500 knots! Sparky lined up on the mast of a sampan in the middle of the little flotilla, smoked right at the mast at mast level, pulled into a 45-degree climb as we overflew the small boat and hit the afterburner just as we passed over the mast. Sparky rolled to the right as we climbed so we could see the victim. As I watched, the sampan's mast slowly tilted lower and lower until it finally flopped into the water. The lowly boat captain raised his fist as we swooped off into the distance. Our wingman, Joe Ritter, told us later that we raised a rooster tail about a half mile long as we skimmed the wave tops en route to the sampan flotilla! I would have flown with Sparky some more, but he decided to finish his tour as a regular "bomber pilot," as he had had enough of the Wild Weasel mission. At any rate, I was now able to complete my 100 missions with Sam about a week before Thanksgiving in 1967.

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Woodstock Residents

Town Meeting Warrant

Any Woodstock Resident wishing to have an article placed on the 2013 Town Meeting Warrant agenda should submit it to the Selectmen on or before January 15, 2013 as set by town vote.

Snow Plowing

Please remember that according to Maine State Law Title 29 section 2396 item 4, A person may not place and allow to remain on a public way snow or slush that has not accumulated there naturally.

Dog Licenses

Dog Licenses for 2013 are now available at the Woodstock Town Office. Dogs that are six months or older, or within 10 of ownership, must now be licensed.

License fees are	\$6.00 neutered/spayed
	\$11.00 not neutered/spayed
	\$42.00 Kennel (10 or more)

The Woodstock Dog Control Ordinance requires a kennel for more than three dogs at one residence.

You will need to bring a current rabies immunization and a certificate of neutering or spaying, if applicable.

A late fee of \$25.00 will be charged starting on February 1, 2013.

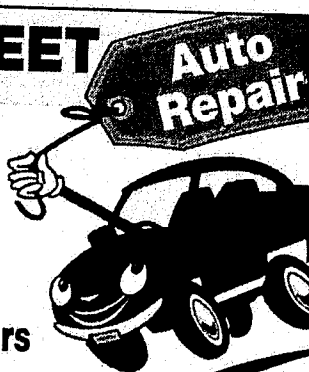
Nomination papers

Nomination papers will be available at the Woodstock Town Office on December 31 for any Woodstock Resident interested in running for the office of Selectmen, Assessor & Overseer of the Poor or the office of MSAD #44 School Board Director.

Not less than 25, nor more than 100, signatures of registered Woodstock voters are required to file nomination papers at the Town Clerk's Office. Completed nomination papers are due at the Town Office on February 8, 2013, which is the required 45 days before the Annual Town Meeting.

This procedure was adopted by the voters at the 2009 Woodstock Annual Town Meeting, to become effective with the March 29, 2010 Woodstock Annual Town Meeting.

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David Conary of Woodstock has been named to the International Who's Who in Poetry, recognizing the publication of his poems in several newspapers and magazines. Additionally, he has been named to the Marquis Who's Who in the World 2013.

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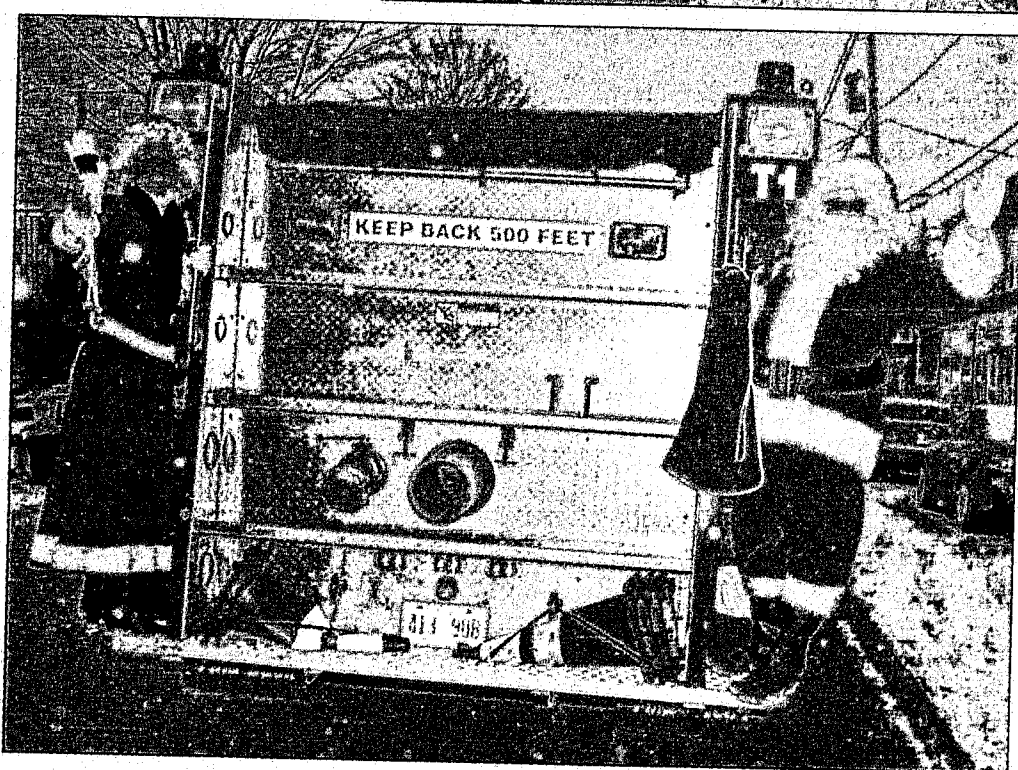
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Christmas season in full swing in Bethel

Saturday's light snow added to the festive mood in Bethel as a variety of holiday-related events took place. Clockwise, from right: kids of all ages gathered for the annual Jingle Bell Run up Main Street; Duncan the dog was ready with his bells; Grace McKivergan tends hot cider over the fireplace at the Moses Mason House; the annual Christmas Tea and Fair at the West Parish Congregational Church; Bostonians Chad DeForce, Jill Kacprowicz, Len Milligan and Areeg Eluri with a tree they purchased at Lowell's Saw Shop; Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus ride a Bethel Fire Department truck up Main Street during the Jingle Bell Run. (Photos: A. Aloisio)



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Puzzles4Kids

by Helene Hovanec

RIDDLE SEARCH - SPAIN

Look up, down, and diagonally, both forward and backward to find every word on the list. Circle each one as you find it. When all the words are circled, take the UNUSED letters and write them on the blanks below. Go from left to right and top to bottom to find the answer to this riddle: What musical instrument from Spain helps you find fish?

ALHAMBRA
BAZA
BEACHES
BEJAR
BILBOA
CADIZ
CORDOBA
COSTA BRAVA
GOYA
GUERNICA
IBIZA
LISBON
MATADOR
MIRO
NERJA
OLIVES
TOLEDO
TOURISM

C O R D O B A A N T
O G C S E M I R O O
S U O J E A A U B L
T E A Y Z V R Z S E
A R H I A I I S I D
B N B C S D T L L O
R I A M A T A D O R
A C Z C N E R J A A
V A A N A O B L I B
A L H A M B R A E T

Riddle Answer: _____

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences:
1. Poster is missing. 2. Sleeve is shorter. 3. Handle is smaller. 4. Wall is shorter. 5. Locket is missing. 6. Slacks are shorter.

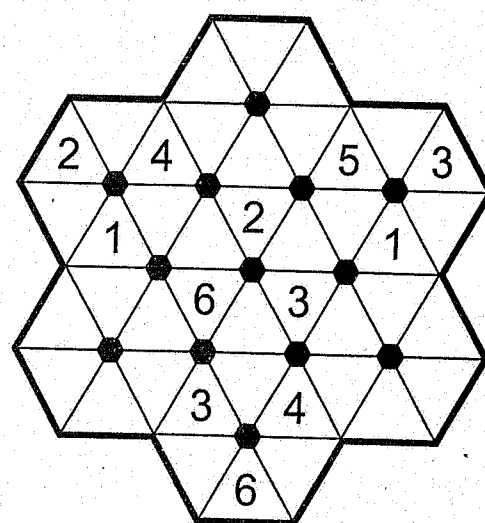
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SNOWFLAKES

by Japheth Light

There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the number 1-6 around each of them.

No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.



DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦♦♦ Easy ♦♦♦♦ Medium ♦♦♦♦♦ Difficult

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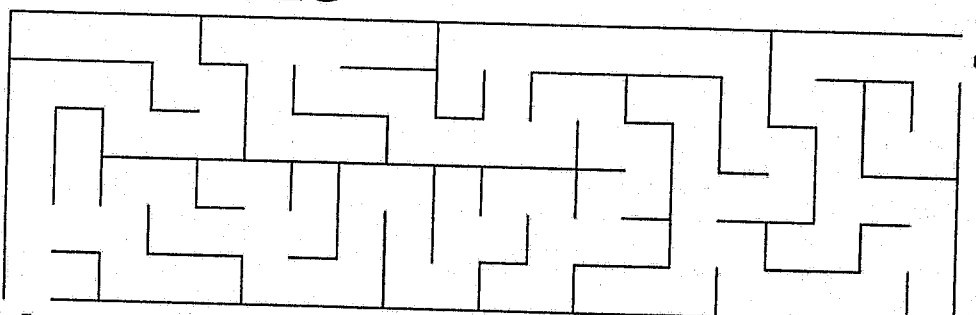
SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Flow
CRUSOE
Order
GERCHA
Adhere
TICKS
Quiet
HASTTLE

TODAY'S WORD

Kids' Maze

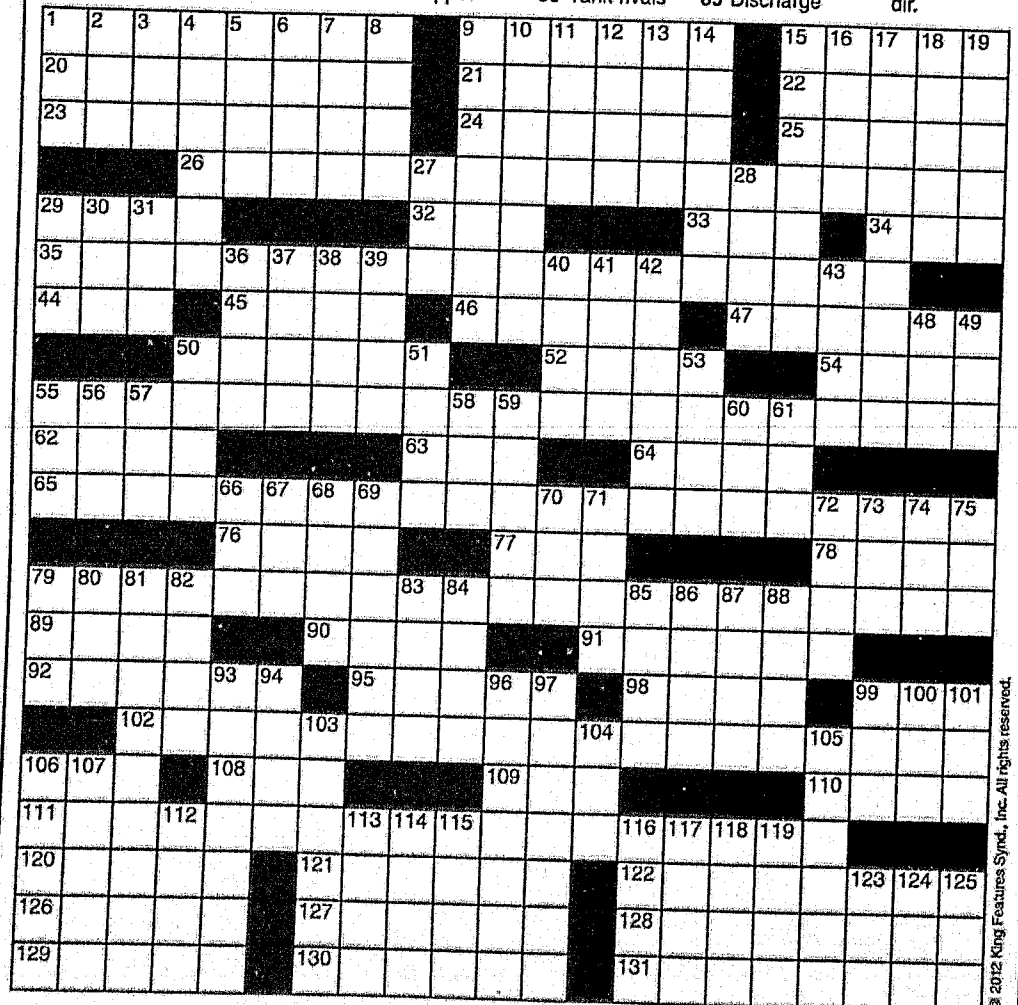


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Super Crossword

FRESHENING FRANCHISES

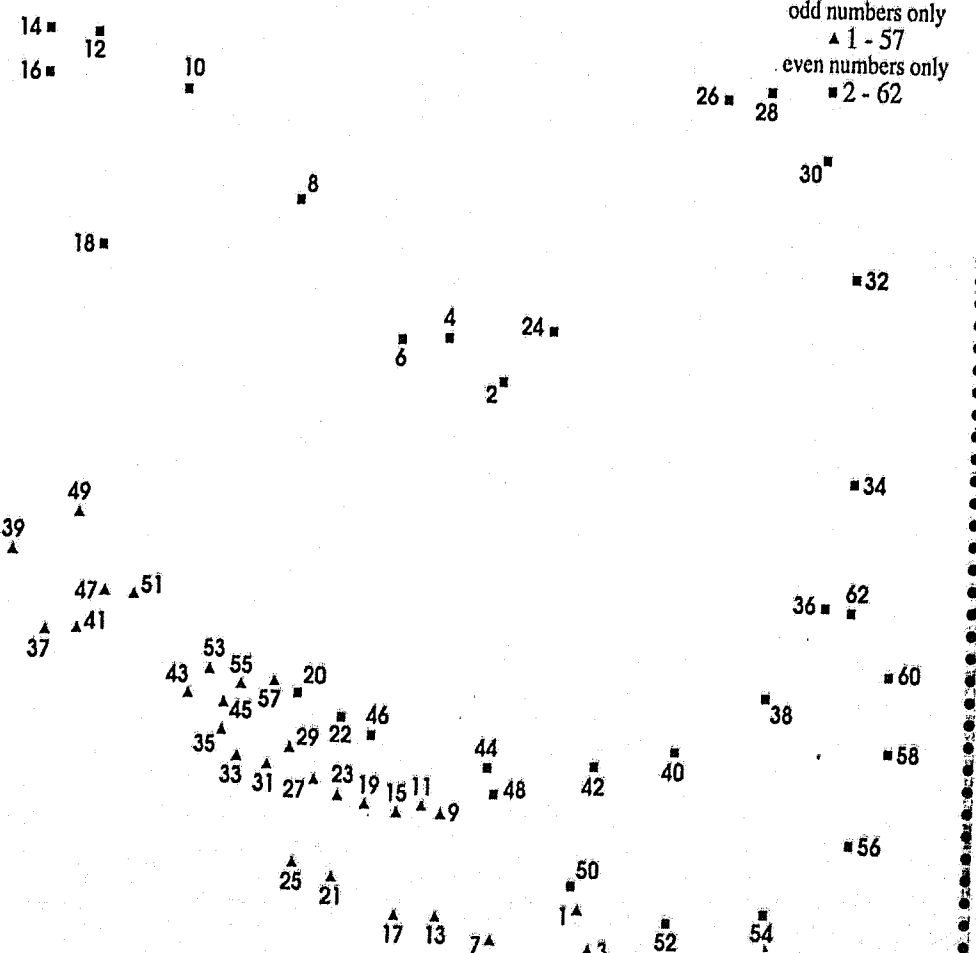
- ACROSS
1 Fellow crew member
9 Social levels
15 Set of morals
20 Food of the gods
21 Orange-and-black bird
22 Hotel queen
23 Camp shelter with a rounded roof
24 1982 Fleetwood Mac hit
25 City on the Rhine River
26 Start of a riddle
29 Skiing need
32 Sterile hosp. areas
33 Make believe
34 Mag. team
35 Riddle, part 2
44 Category
45 Off-dunked cookie
46 Knocked off
47 "Hava —" (Jewish folk song)
50 12-step affiliate group
- DOWN
2 Neutral, e.g.
54 Certain Scot
55 Riddle, part 3
62 Congeal
63 Here, to
64 Help
65 Riddle, part 4
76 Anecdote
77 Roxy Music's Brian
78 "— Rock" (Simon & Garfunkel hit)
79 Riddle, part 5
89 Guestimate words
90 Gas in lights
91 Nebraska natives
92 Neighbor of Croatia
95 Jury's event
98 "The heat —"
99 Longoria of TV
102 End of the riddle
106 "Gimme —" (start of a cheer at Iowa)
108 Cartoon shriek
- 109 "— Town"
110 "I do," e.g.
111 Riddle's answer
120 Part of POW
121 City in southwest Ireland
122 "Get Smart" star
126 "— Turkish War
127 Some fishers
128 Optometric exams
129 Paint coat
130 Can't stand
131 Sudden drop
- 14 Spotted in the vicinity of
15 Hyundai model
16 Byte beginner
17 Of detective Sherlock
18 "— some advice"
19 Houses, to
27 Tillage tool
28 Inflation subj.
29 Biol. or zool.
30 Bobby Orr's org.
31 With 113-Down, acgm producer
36 — me tangere (touch-me-not)
37 Port near Algiers
38 — shui
39 Carrot, e.g.
40 Othello's betrayer
41 Gladly
42 Speak sharply to
43 Waite brand
48 Grassy tract
49 Wholly
50 High: Prefix
51 Film style
53 Yank rivals
55 Learning loc.
56 1960s TV
57 Kirk's diary
58 M.Sgt., e.g.
59 Cube's six
60 Home: Abbr.
61 Erwin of early films
66 King James Bible suffix
67 Rural "uh-uh"
68 Personal flair
69 Old Spanish money
70 Pa's bro
71 North Pacific salmon
72 Smokes
73 Old witch
74 — Darya River
75 Singer Cooke
79 Irate crowd
80 Spanish gold
81 ill-fated 1940s warship
82 "Sula" author
83 Morrison
84 Tooted thing
84 Carnelot wife
85 Discharge
- 86 Seattle loc.
87 Flapjack eatery, briefly
88 Mama's ma
89 Not correct
94 To — (perfectly)
96 Penitent types
97 Least soft
99 Pindar's H
100 Dog treater
101 Eruption
103 Did an axel
104 Sky sphere
105 Laid turf on
106 Seething
107 U.S.-Can.-Mex. pact
112 Cube of hay
113 See 31-Down
114 Desist
115 Sheltered, nautically
116 Garden west of Nod
117 Vary wildly
118 Billfold fillers
119 — the Great (kiddle-lit detective)
123 "A Fool Such —"
124 "Jersey Shore" ailer
125 Compass dir.



monkeying around

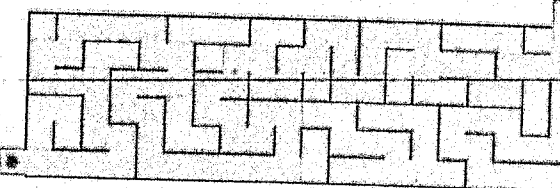
Odd/Even

Connect Dots: odd numbers only
▲ 1 - 57
even numbers only
■ 2 - 62

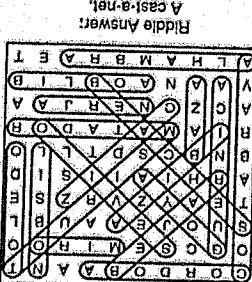


By David Kalvitis

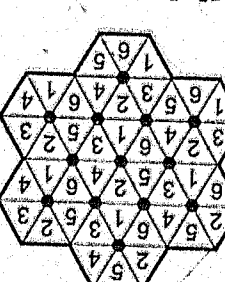
© 2012 Monkeying Around



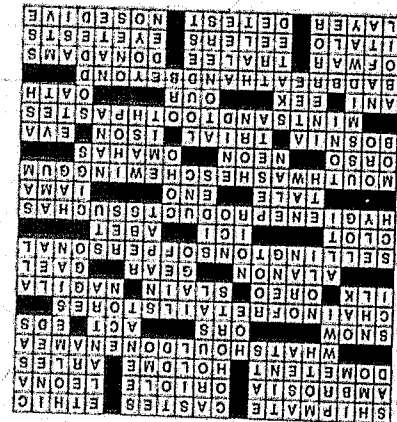
Kids' Maze Solution



Puzzles4Kids



SNOWFLAKES solution



Super Crossword

Answers

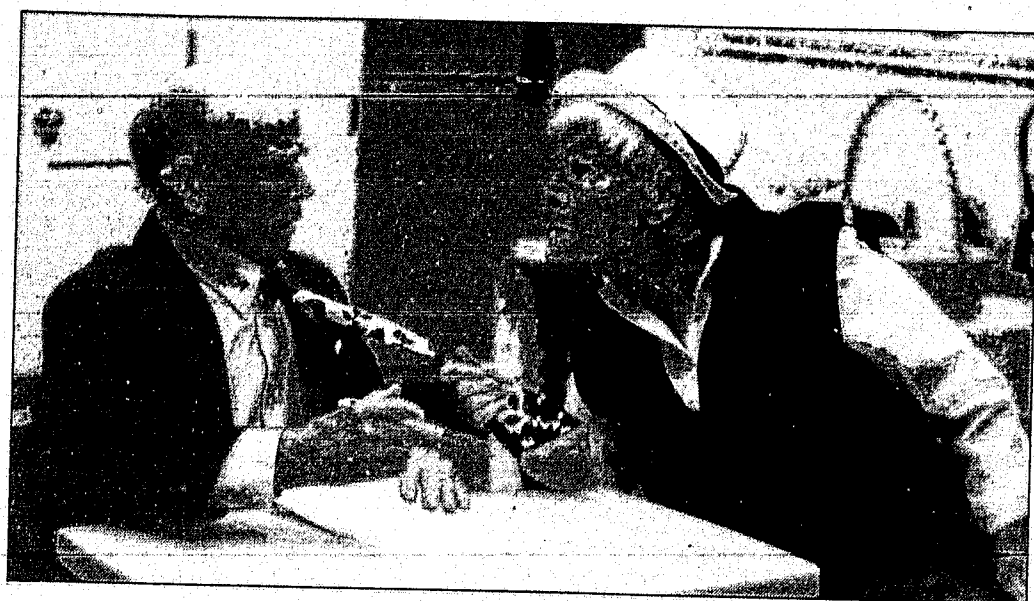
Scramblers:
1. Course 2. Charge 3. Stick 4. Stealth
Today's Word: Laughtrack

ANSWERS:

D
E
C

6

2
0
1
2



HOLIDAY PERFORMANCES-Senior College Players will perform two holiday favorites as a Christmas gift to the community on Friday, Dec. 7, at 7 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 8, at 1 p.m. and at 7 p.m. at the Mason House Exhibit Hall. Bethel Area Senior Citizens are invited to a special matinee on Thursday (today), Dec. 6, at 1:15 p.m. Audience members will find the Mason House in full holiday décor for these performances. One of the featured plays, "A Child's Christmas in Wales" by Dylan Thomas, will offer a sparkling rendition of this classic. Performers will read and act and invite the audience to join them in song. Lynn Arizzi, director, said an audience-participation Christmas comedy, "Memories of a Wonderful Life" by Jonathan M. Zaley, will also be performed. "The play puts an audience-friendly twist on a holiday classic and we'll need audience help to play all the characters. We'll give you the lines so you can join in the fun, but only if you wish," Arizzi said. This holiday special promises to be fun and enjoyable for both the Players and the audience. Senior College Players will perform interchanging roles in the four performances. Players include Barb Dion, Leigh Dickinson, Mary-Ellen Gartner, Peter Gartner, Lorrie Hoeh, Dan Johnson, Laura Johnson, Jim McLean, Tineke Ouwinga, Roberta Taylor and Rosabelle Tift. The public is invited and admission is free. However, donations will be accepted to offset Royalty fees. FMI, contact Arizzi at 824-0080. (Submitted photo)



DASHING THROUGH THE SNOW CAST-The Telstar High School Theater Department will present "Dashing Through the Snow" Dec. 13, 14, 15 at 7 p.m. and Dec. 15 at 2 p.m. at Helen C. Berry Auditorium Telstar. Front: Nick Johnson; Sitting: Tabitha Corriveau, Aislinn Forbes, Anneliese Smith, Gabby Stone, Aaron Speakman. Back: Katryna Kof-ton Bileau, Anna Tyrina, Anna Saucier, Nancy Husten. Absent: Liam Gallagher and Mohamed Alzubaidi. Admission for the family-friendly show is free, with donations accepted. Refreshments will be available. The show is set four days before Christmas at the Snowflake Inn in the tiny town of Tinsel, Texas. The story revolves around a colorful parade of eccentric guests who come to the Inn. Trina, the harried yet upbeat innkeeper of this B&B, has more than she can handle coping with these nuttier-than-a-fruitcake lodgers. Hoyt and his sister, Donna Jo, make the mistake of trying to end a 30-year feud between their curmudgeonly aunts, Ennis and Della, with sidesplitting results. Ainsley and Lenora, self-involved actors from a lower-than-low-budget touring production of "A Christmas Carol," descend on the Inn to fulfill a promise, leaving chaos in their wake. Add to this an ill-advised romantic rendezvous between Mrs. Claus and one o' Santa's elves, a demanding guest who refuses to leave, not to mention a tipsy housekeeper, and it's clear it will take more than a kiss under the mistletoe to keep Trina's spirits merry and bright. But a spur-of-the-moment Christmas Eve wedding that brings together the Futrelle sisters and their best friend, Raynerd, takes a surprising turn that leads to a climax that changes their lives forever.

SR Ski & Snowboard Club to host film Friday

The Sunday River Ski and Snowboard Club will be hosting the Premier Showing of Matchstick Productions "Superheroes of Stoke" on Dec. 8, 6 p.m., at Bingham Auditorium, Gould Academy.

The Sunday River Ski and Snowboard Club is kicking off the start of the winter season with Maine's only premier showing of Matchstick Productions twentieth anniversary film "Superheroes of Stoke."

The movie includes incredible big mountain footage and some of today's best skiers, while taking a look back at many of the ski pioneers that have made the sport what it is today.

As part of this fundraising effort, the club will be raffling off prizes including: Fischer skis, Oakley goggles, tees and more great swag.

There will also be a chance to meet some of the area's top local ski and snowboarders. Tickets are available at the door, and will be used for the raffle.

The Sunday River Ski and Snowboard Club is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing support to help winter athletes improve and reach their personal best via competitive training programs through the Gould Academy Competi-

tion Program (GACP). In 2011 the Club donated over \$13,500 for athlete support. For more information, please contact: Executive Director Bob Harkins, (207) 381-0151. Or, go to: www.sundayriverskiand-snowboardclub.camp8.org

BHS honors volunteer

With the ground blanketed in newly fallen snow, a sizable number of people - including several families with children - visited the Bethel Historical Society on Saturday afternoon, Dec. 1, for its annual "Christmas at the Mason House" program.

Volunteers Grace McKivergan, Mary Ennis and Jackie Bell had decorated the first-floor rooms with boughs, berries, fruit and cones, and Society staff members made sure candles were lit and fireplaces blazing before visitors arrived.

Providing seasonal favorites on harp was local musician and composer Conni St. Pierre, who positioned herself next to the large portrait of Agnes Straw Mason in the front parlor. Delicious cookies and other refreshments were provided by Allan Marcotte, Mary Ennis, Jackie Bell, Danna Nickerson and Grace McKivergan.

Stan Howe, the Society's Associate Director, kept a steady supply of hot mulled cider ready, and Danna Nickerson, the Society's Administrative Assistant, took a number of

photos to document the event. A number of donations were left by visitors, for which the society is very grateful.

Following the open house, about 25 society volunteers gathered for hearty refreshments in the Mason House exhibit hall.

Part way through the hour-long event, Society Executive Director Randall Bennett took a few minutes to thank all of the Society's many volunteers for their tireless efforts to keep the organization moving forward.

He also had the pleasure of presenting the Society's 2012 Marjorie MacArthur Noll Volunteer Service Award to Grace McKivergan for her many years of outstanding volunteer service.

This award was established in 1987 in memory of a much-beloved volunteer, and has been presented to an individual or couple every year since that time.

The Society is pleased to report that its Annual Fund Campaign will continue through the month of December and that new and increased donations in any amount will be matched by the organization's Board of Trustees up to a total of \$5,000.

Already, a number of members and friends have taken advantage of this one-time matching opportunity by contributing to the Annual Fund, which provides the Society with just over a third of its operating income.

For those who would

still like to contribute to the Fund, checks may be mailed to the Society at P.O. Box 12, Bethel, ME 04217. All donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Founded in 1966, the Bethel Historical Society is western Maine's largest and most comprehensive historical agency.

With over 1,000 members, the Society fosters a sense of place - with a focus on western Maine and the White Mountain region - by collecting, preserving, displaying and interpreting historically significant artifacts and documents for residents, visitors, students, and scholars.

Through its exhibits, programs, events, and publications, the Society strives to make the region's history meaningful, accessible, and enjoyable.

In 1974, the Society acquired the 1813 Broad Street residence of Dr. Moses Mason, which now contains a period house museum, exhibit hall and research library.

In 1999, the Society opened the O'Neil Robinson House (next door at 10 Broad Street) to the public for an expanded exhibit program, museum shop space, and administrative offices.

Over the past forty years, the Society's achievements have been recognized by a number of state and national organizations.

FMI: 207-824-2908 / 800-824-2910 / www.bethelhistorical.org

Mt. Valley Rec basketball

The 2012-2013 Mountain Valley Rec Basketball League kicked off its inaugural games on Sunday 12-02-12. There are 6 entries in this year's league. There were hopes of two other teams and as of the end of November, that appeared to be a reality. But due to sponsorship and organizational issues, a group from Dixfield and Jay were not able to make it happen. Games are played Sunday's at 10 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. at Mountain Valley High School.

This year's teams are defending champions Laid Back Installers of Mexico led by Brian and Eric Canwell, runner-up last year and 2011 champions, Bethel Bobcats led by Ryan and T.J. Savage, new entry Hotel Rumford led by Kevin Gallant and Craig Milledge, Black Bear Industries led by Craig Jacques and Dave Hodgkins, Archie's of Mexico/Dixfield led by Justin Archibault and The Thundercats of Mexico led by Mike and Tom Leclerc.

The opening game saw Hotel Rumford dominate Black Bear Industries, 88-60. Chris Willer led all scorers for the Hotel with 35 points including 7 threes, Craig Milledge 13, Scot New and Kevin Gallant 10 each supported the Hotel cause. Black Bear was led by Josh Albee with 16 and Dave Hodgkins with 15 (5 threes). In the second game LBI showed their superior talents, as the defending champions trounced Archie's, 101-68. Eric Canwell was game high with 23 points, Chris Baxter 16, Owen Jones 15, Joe Gaudreau 12, Brian Canwell 11 and Jon Benjamin 10 balanced the scoring. Archie's has Brett Archibault and cousin Mike Holmquist led with 15 and 14 points. In the finale, The Bethel Bobcats strong contingent pounded The Thundercats, 94-48. Bethel was led by big man Matt Zetts with 19, Ryan Savage with 14 and Ryan Kimball with 10.

Next Sunday's games are as follows, 10 a.m. Bethel vs. Archie's, 11:30 a.m. LBI vs Black Bear Industries and 1 p.m. Hotel Rumford takes on The Thundercats.

Telstar High School girls' basketball preview

After only a J.V. program for the last couple of years, we will have a Varsity and a J.V. team this season. The numbers are around 23 girls, with only one senior. With good middle school numbers the program should be around for a while. Senior Haley Casico (guard), juniors Casey Blaszcak (post/guard), Maisey Griffen (forward), Alyssa Brands (forward), and Jennie Wakefield (guard), are our upperclassmen, and will need to be leaders for our young team. Sophomore Savanna Pelletier, Annie Cushman, Katie Merrill, Jessie Kelly, and Dora Pilgram will be competing for a varsity spot. Freshmen Becca Howard, Victoria Ryerson, Hayley Peterson, Blair Stevens, and Olivia York are also trying to earn a spot on varsity. These girls will work hard as the MVC is a very tough conference, but we expect to compete night in and night out. - Coach Brian Mills

Church Services

ALBANY
Congregational Church - Hunts Corner, 9:30 a.m. Sunday worship and Sunday School at 9 a.m.; Pastor Eddie Gammon. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Thursdays at the home of Fernand Corriveau.

ANDOVER
First Congregational Church - Rev. Jane Rich. Sunday morning worship 10 to 11 a.m. followed by brunch. All welcome. FMI - 392-3761.

Calvary Bible Church - Morning worship 10:45 - noon. Wednesday prayer meeting, 6:30 p.m. Rt. 5, South Andover. 392-1121.

BETHEL
Bethel Alliance Church - 251 Walker's Mills Road, Rev. Kevin Bellinger, Senior Pastor & Nicholas Lutz,

Youth Pastor. Sundays: 9 a.m. Sunday School for adults and children, "Sunday Morning Live" for Middle and High School youth; 10 a.m. Worship Service (Nursery care and Children's Church are available); 4:30-6:30 p.m. Kidz Klub (4 yrs.-5th grade). Tuesdays: High School Youth Group 5-7 p.m. Thursdays: Middle School Youth Group 5-7 p.m. FMI: 207-824-2289

Bethel Church of the Nazarene - 16 Church Street, Bethel. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m. A.M. Worship, 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Bible Study and Prayer, 7 p.m. Third Sunday of each month at 9 a.m., breakfast open to the public at no charge. For info or if you have a prayer request: Gerry Shimamura 824-7289 or Juanita Korhonen 665-2528.

Roman Catholic Church of the Holy Savior, Our Lady of the Snows - 265 Walkers Mills Road (Rt. 26). Fr. Robert Vaillancourt may be reached at the parish office 364-4556. Saturday Mass, 6 p.m. Announcements 824-2933.

Episcopal House Church - Third Sunday of the month, 4 p.m. FMI: 824-3932.

West Parish Congregational Church - Church Street, Rev. Virginia Rickeman, Pastor. Sundays: 10 a.m. worship and Sunday School Sept.-May. Nursery and child care provided. Tuesdays: 8 a.m., informal Prayer Group with coffee in the Chapel. All are welcome. First Wednesday of the month: 8 a.m., Mens' Breakfast Group. Entrance in rear of church. All events open

to everyone. This is an open and affirming congregation. FMI: 824-2689; 824-0550.

United Methodist - Main Street - Pastor Carol Stevens. Sunday worship 9 a.m. Bible Study 1:30 p.m. on Wednesdays at Sudbury Village, Apt. 15. FMI: 824-0797.

West Bethel Union - Morning worship and 9 a.m. Sunday School. FMI: 836-3533 or 836-2882.

Pleasant Valley Bible Pastor Dave Fraher. Sunday Services: Sunday School, 9 a.m.; Worship Service, 10 a.m. Ladies Bible study Tuesday, 2:30 p.m. Midweek Bible study and prayer, Wednesday 6 p.m. Awana Club Fridays 3:30-5 p.m. (Cubbies ages 3/4; Sparks Grades K-2; children may take bus from school). Monthly

Youth Group meetings and Grades 3- high school. FMI: 836-2828.

Church of Christ - at home of Keith Hamel, minister, 507 Walker's Mills Road (Route 26), Bethel. Sunday: Bible class, 9 a.m.; Worship Service 10 a.m. Wednesday: Bible study, 7 p.m. FMI: 824-3577.

Seventh Day Adventist Fellowship: Meets at the Nazarene Church on Saturdays, on Church Street in Bethel. Sabbath School 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 11 a.m. FMI: 824-8939.

LOCKE MILLS
Locke Mills Union - Pastor Sondra Withey. Sunday Morning Service and Sunday School, 9 - 10 a.m. Bible study at the church is every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

RUMFORD POINT

Rumford Point Church - Sunday service, 8:30 a.m., followed by coffee and refreshments.

WOODSTOCK
Bryant Pond Baptist - Pastor Matt Jones, Sundays: Sunday School 9:15 a.m.; Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.; Evening Service 6 p.m.; Wednesdays: Prayer Meeting 6:30 p.m.

Woodstock Seventh day Adventist - Pastor Greg Carlson (207-527-2551), Saturday: 9:20 a.m. Sabbath school. 11 a.m. worship service. **Mahoosuc Mountain Friends** - a worship group meeting in the unprogrammed tradition of Friends (Quakers) - Sundays, 9:30 a.m. at the Whitman Memorial Library, Bryant Pond. Newcomers welcome. FMI: 824-8669.

Community Calendar

Clothing Exchange, Bethel Park, 23 Mason Street, Bethel. Hours: Monday 1 to 4 p.m., Thursday 4 to 6 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Donations of gently-used clothing only accepted during open hours. No exceptions. FMI: 824-4090. Clothing may also be left at Northeast Bank, Main Street, Bethel, Monday-Wednesday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday-Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

Food Pantry, Nazarene Church, Park Street, Bethel. By appointment only (824-0349).

Women's Imaging Center, Stephens Memorial Hospital, Norway, offering professional prosthetic and bra fittings for women on the third Wednesday every month. For appointment call 743-5993 Ext. 6851.

West Paris Baptist Church will foster wellness for anyone searching for faith-based support (grief, loss, addition, codependency, abuse issues). Meetings: Tuesdays 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Light refreshments FMI: Terrence Eldridge (674-3205).

Help Celebrate the Season at Bethel United Methodist Church when tree is decorated for the holidays. Colored lights may be purchased in memory of or honor of loved ones for \$5 each. Send your names and donations to church at PO Box 387 Bethel, Me 04217.

Master Gardener Volunteer training offered by University of Maine Cooperative Extension in 2013. Training will focus on fruit and vegetable production, composting, season extension, botany, soil science and pest management. Locations: Wednesday afternoons at Region 9 Technical School, Mexico and Thursday evenings at the South Paris Extension office. Class sizes limited. For an application, or more information, call (800) 287-1482, 743-6329 or visit <http://umaine.edu/oxford/programs/oxford-county-master-gardener-volunteers/>

Staying on Your Feet, a free one-time course for adults aged 60 and over. Course includes balance screening, blood pressure check, leg-strength measurement, and education on staying fit. Location: Second Thursday of every month, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Harp-er Conference Center, Ripley Medical Office Building, 193 Main Street, Norway.

Essentials of College Planning, Maine Educational Opportunity Center. Free workshop for adults 19 and over at Western Maine University and Community College Center, 232 Main Street, South Paris, Monday, December 3 and 17, 10 a.m. FMI/registration call 1 (800) 281-3707 or visit <http://meoc.maine.edu>.

South Paris Area Veterans - The Veterans' Advocate will visit the Maine Veterans' Home Friday, Dec. 7, and Wednesday, Dec. 19 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

Tracking Workshop with Susan Morse Dec. 7, 8 and 9, Mahoosuc Mountain Lodge, North Newry. If you can't come for the entire weekend she will show photographs in slide shows Friday and Saturday night at 7 p.m. Cost: \$10 per evening. Friday title is: Deer of North America: "Whitetail, Mule Deer, Moose, and Caribou" Saturday title is: Black Bear, Bobcat, Canada Lynx, River Otter and more. Cost for entire workshop: \$275 including meals and lodging; commuters, \$175. FMI: 824-2037.

Seasonal Public Skating, Sundays 2:30 to 4:30 p.m., Robinson Arena, Hebron. Adults, \$3/Children 12 and under, \$2/WinterKids Passport holders, free. FMI: 966-2100.

Thursday, Dec. 6

2 p.m. - **Christmas Craft Program** led by Charlotte Winchester at the Whitman Memorial Library, Bryant Pond. Supplies to make tree ornaments will be provided, but attendees are asked to bring a glue gun if possible. The program is open to the public at no charge. Light refreshments will be served.

5 to 8 p.m. - **ArtReach Jamboree and Student Art Sale**, presented by Telstar Middle School's art students. Special performances by Jewel Clark, Richard Felt and Friends, Denny Breau, and more. Refreshments will be provided. Proceeds to benefit Oxford County's Meals on Wheels Program. FMI: Contact Melissa Prescott (prescotm@sad44.org) or (824-2136 ext. 228).

Friday, Dec. 7 and Saturday, Dec. 8

Senior College Players will present two audience-participation holiday favorites, "A Christmas in Wales" and "Memories of a Wonderful Life" on Friday, Dec. 7 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 8 at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the Mason House Exhibit Hall, 14 Broad Street, Bethel. Public invited. Admission free. Donations accepted to offset Royalty fees. FMI contact Director Lynn Arizzi at 824-0080.

Friday, Dec. 7

1 p.m. - **Pearl Harbor Remembrance Ceremony** at the Maine Veterans' Home, 477 High Street, South Paris. Following the ceremony, a piece of the battleship, U.S.S. Arizona, will be put on permanent display at the South Paris facility.

6 to 7:30 p.m. - **Cookies with Santa**, Woodstock Elementary School.

7 p.m. - **"Deer of North America: Whitetail, Mule Deer, Elk, Moose and Caribou"** slideshow by Susan Morse at Mahoosuc Mountain Lodge, Newry. Refreshments available. Cost: \$10.

7 to 9 p.m. - **Holiday Gifts Show Opening**, Common Art Collective, 443 Main Street, Norway beside the Fare Share Market. Paintings, drawings, photographs and more from Oxford Hills area artists.

7 to 10 p.m. - **Kaleidoscope Monthly Party for the Arts**. Hosted by Wally Wiggins, Mystic Theater, 49 Franklin Street, Rumford. Tips for artists and performers appreciated. Cash bar and snacks available.

Saturday, Dec. 8

8:00 a.m. - **Christmas in Snow Valley**. Andover Town Hall: Craft fair, proceeds benefit Andover Elementary School. First Congregational Church (8:30 a.m.): Food sale, coffee and donuts, crafts, greens, and luncheon. Andover Fire Station (9 a.m.): Craft fair, soup and sandwich luncheon. Santa arrives at 2 p.m.

9 to 11 a.m. - **Breakfast with Santa** at Crescent Park School. Music, crafts, and breakfast free. Pictures w/ Santa: \$5. Proceeds to benefit fifth-grade class trip.

3 to 8 p.m. - **Heritage Holidays at the Park** at Northern Forest Heritage Park, 942 Main Street, Berlin. ATV-drawn hayrides, marshmallow roasting, cookie decorating, pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus, Christmas Treasury Reader's Theatre, and more. Donations of non-perishable food items for local food pantry appreciated. Admission is free. FMI: (603) 752-7202.

1 to 5 p.m. - **Metropolitan Opera Live in HD "Un Ballo in Maschera"** at the Leura Hill Eastman Performing Arts Center, 18 Bradley Street, Fryeburg. Tickets: Adults, \$26/Seniors (65+), \$23/Students, \$18. To order, call 935-9293 or visit www.fryeburgacademy.org/ pac.

6 p.m. - **Hanover Tree Lighting and Gathering**, Hanover Town Office. Social gathering to follow at Hanover Town House, 12 Howard Pond Road.

6 p.m. - **"Superheroes of Stoke" Premier**, Bingham Auditorium, Gould Academy. Proceeds benefit Sunday River Ski and Snowboard Club. Adults \$15/Students \$10. FMI: Bob Harkins (381-0151) or www.sundayriver-skiandsnowboardclub.camp8.org.

7 p.m. - **"Black Bear, Bobcat, Canada Lynx, River Otter, Moose and More"** slideshow by Susan Morse at Mahoosuc Mountain Lodge, Newry. Refreshments available. Cost: \$10.

7 to 10 p.m. - **Swingin' Bears Square Dance Club Teddy Bear Dance**, Oxford Hills Middle School, Pine Street, South Paris. Donations of stuffed toys for Right Start for Kids appreciated. Door prizes, Pot o' Gold drawing, refreshments. Admission: \$6. FMI visit www.squaredanceme.us/ or call Eleanor Herrick (782-4050).

Sunday, Dec. 9

1 to 2:30 p.m. - **OH Yoga!** Community class free of charge at Holiday Open House, Center for Movement and Meditation, 430 Main Street, Norway.

2 p.m. - **Waterford Worlds Fair Association**, December meeting, Waterford Town Office. Short business meeting followed by social time. Please bring food to share, but no gifts. FMI: Vice President Bill Winslow (595-1801).

4 p.m. - **Mahoosuc Community Band's annual Holiday Concert**, West Parish Congregational Church, Bethel. Come, relax, and enjoy some Christmas music. Refreshments following concert. Donations accepted.

Tuesday, Dec. 11

6 p.m. - **Mundt Allen American Legion Post 81 Annual Christmas Party** at Mundt-Allen Post in Bethel. RSVP: Bob Everett (836-2038) or Bob McCartney (836-3575).

7 p.m. - **Tar Sands Meeting**, Waterford Town Office, 366 Valley Road. Brief presentation about tar sands oil and how it affects Waterford followed by a question/answer session. FMI: Call Earl Morse (583-6957)

Dec. 12, 13, 14

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. - **Annual Christmas Sale**, Ledgeview Living Center, West Paris. Proceeds to benefit the Ledgeview Activity Department. Sale ends Friday, Dec. 14 at noon.

Wednesday, Dec. 12

3:30 p.m. - **It's a Matter of Balance**, program for senior citizens by Rhonda Morton, Rumford Point Congregational Church. Doors open at 2:45 p.m. First 20 people receive free balance assessment. FMI: Ann Morton (665-3123).

6 p.m. - **Holiday Concert**, Crescent Park School. Per-

formances by the fourth- and fifth- grade classes, chorus, and band.

7 p.m. - **North Country Community Chorus Christmas Concert**, St. Kieran Arts Center. Additional performances Dec. 14 at 7 p.m. and Dec. 16 at 2 p.m. Adults \$12/Students \$6. FMI: (603) 752-1028

Dec. 13, 14, 15

7 p.m. - **"Dashing Through the Snow"**, Helen C. Berry Auditorium, Telstar. A 2 p.m. matinee Saturday, Dec. 15, in addition to the 7 p.m. show. Free family entertainment presented by Telstar High School's theater department. Donations accepted. FMI: 824-2136.

Friday, Dec. 14

6:15 p.m. - **West Paris Library Winter Lights**. Horse-drawn wagon rides, holiday cookies, mulled cider. Songs by Agnes Gray Explorers and sing along accompanied by Jim Burke. FMI: 674-2004.

6:30 p.m. - **"Holka Polka!"** presented by Kids Create Theater Company and Mahoosuc Kids Association, Crescent Park School. FMI: Julie Hart (824-7007) or Amanda (890-4160).

7 p.m. - **The Best Christmas Pageant Ever**, 49 Franklin's Mystic Theater, Rumford. Tickets available at All That Jazz and Bartash's. FMI: Call 369-0129 or visit <http://www.49franklin.com>.

7:30 p.m. - **The musical score for A Charlie Brown Christmas** presented by the Heather Pierson Quartet, Leura Hill Eastman Performing Arts Center. Tickets: Adults, \$10/Seniors (65+) and students, \$5. FMI call 935-9232 or visit www.fryeburgacademy.org/pac.

Saturdays, Dec. 15, 22, 29

7 to 10 p.m. - **Jones Dance Band**, Legion Hall, Church Street, South Paris. Tickets \$5.

Dec. 15 and 16

9 a.m. - **Breakfast with Santa**, Oxford Pizza Hut. Food, music, and fun with Santa and his elves. Proceeds benefit the Maine Heart Gallery's photo display of children awaiting adoption in Maine. Adults \$6/Children 12 and under \$4 (cash and checks only). Reservations required; contact Karen DuBois (539-4217).

Saturday, Dec. 15

1 p.m. - **Oxford Hills Honey Bee Club's Potluck Holiday Party**, Oxford County Extension Center, 9 Olson Road, South Paris. FMI: Contact John (743-5009) or Kevin (farout@roadrunner.com).

1 to 5 p.m. - **"Aida" Metropolitan Opera Live in HD**, Leura Hill Eastman Performing Arts Center. Adults \$26/Seniors \$23/Students \$18.

2 to 4 p.m. - **Rabies Clinic**, Bethel Fire Station. \$15 - cash only.

7:30 p.m. - **A Heritage Christmas**, First Congregational Church, 17 East Main Street, South Paris. Performances by Androskoggin Chorale and Lewiston High School Chamber Choir, accompanied by Bridget Convey. Adults, \$18/Seniors, \$16/Students \$9/Children 12 and under, free. Tickets: Call 782-7228 or visit www.maine-music-society.org.

Sunday, Dec. 16

4 p.m. - **Night of the Father's Love**, Christmas Cantata, Locke Mills Union Church. Directed by Bev Melville. Refreshments following. FMI: Joyce Hathaway (674-2259).

5 p.m. - **Waterford Library Community Gathering**. Candlelit caroling from Waterford Common to the library for refreshments. Children will have an opportunity to visit Santa, and will receive a book as a gift. All are welcome.

Tuesday, Dec. 18

3:30 p.m. - **Free Gingerbread House Event**, Norway Memorial Library, 258 Main Street. Children ages 5-12 invited to make a graham cracker gingerbread house. To register, call Annika (743-5309 ext. 4).

7 p.m. - **Telstar Middle/High School Winter Concert**, Helen C. Berry Auditorium. Performances by Telstar's middle and high school bands and choruses. Snow date: Wednesday, Dec. 19, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 20

6:30 p.m. - **"Peggy the Pint Sized Pirate"** presented by Kids Create Theater Company and Mahoosuc Kids Association, Woodstock Elementary School. FMI: Julie Hart (824-7007) or Amanda (890-4160).

Sunday, Dec. 23

5 p.m. - **The Living Nativity**, Bethel town common. View this scene performed by local people, and live animals.

Monday, Dec. 24

7 p.m. - **Candlelight Christmas Eve Service**, Bethel Alliance Church. All are welcome. FMI: 824-2289

Monday, Dec. 31

8 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. - **New Year Dance**, South Paris Legion Hall, Church Street. Music by the Jones Dance Band. Refreshments. Tickets: \$10. Reservations: Betty Decoteau (743-7965).

SUPPORT SERVICES

SAFE VOICES

Safe Voices serves all of Oxford County and provides emergency shelter, court advocacy and support groups with child care. Rumford office 369-0750; Norway office 743-5906; 24 hour hotline 1-800-559-2927

REACH

Rape Education and Crisis Hotline 1-800-871-7741. Sexual assault/sexual abuse hotline, same number. Support groups and awareness education, past or present victims of abuse.

AA MEETINGS/ADDICTION HELP

Bethel Freedom Group. Open Discussion Meeting, Saturdays at 4:30 in the Snow Cap Inn conference room, next to the fitness room. Sunday River. Seasonal, Thanksgiving through April 1. Big Book Meeting Sundays at 6 p.m. at the United Methodist Church, Main Street. 12 Step/Traditions Meeting Tuesdays at 6pm at the United Methodist Church, Main Street. Open Discussion Meeting Fridays at 6 pm at Bethel United Methodist Church, Main Street.

People in recovery from alcohol/drug addiction may need to move to a Next Step group. Open to everyone who feels they may benefit from a change. FMI: Laurence Austin at 824-4077 (calls confidential)

Adult Children of Alcoholics and Dysfunctional Families (ACOA or ACA) meeting at Waterford Library (Route 87 across

from the Commons) Thursdays, 10 to 11 a.m. All welcome. FMI call 739-9115.

CANCER WELLNESS

Support and Education for cancer patients, survivors and caregivers. Every Thursday, 1:30-3 p.m. Rumford Hospital, Room 357. (877) 336-7287. Call to confirm in stormy weather.

EXCHANGES/PANTRIES

Clothing Exchange, Bethel Park, 23 Mason Street, Bethel. Hours: Monday 1 to 4, Thursday 4 to 6, Saturday, 10 to 12 a.m. Donations of gently-used clothing only accepted during open hours. No exceptions. 824-4090. Clothing may also be dropped off at Northeast Bank on Main Street.

Food Pantry, Nazarene Church, Park Street, Bethel. By appointment only (824-0369).

HELP FOR THE HOMELESS

Rumford Group Homes, Inc. operates three homeless shelters, a transitional living program for youth 18-21, homeless youth outreach and case management services for adults and children. Emergency shelter includes the South Paris Men's Shelter, the Norway Family Center for women and children in crisis, and our Rumford Family Center in Rumford for families. To make a referral or request help in the South Paris area, call 743-6363 or call 869-9439 for help in the Rumford area M-F 9 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information on Rumford Group Homes, Inc. call 864-3551 or visit www.rumfordgrouphomes.org.

MENTAL ILLNESS

Beacon House Social Club, 150 Congress Street, Rumford, a drop-in social club for adults suffering with mental, emotional, or physical illness, provides support, relaxation, and socialization. Monday 1 to 5 p.m.; Tuesday 9 a.m.-2 p.m.; Wednesday 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; Wednesday 3-8 p.m.; Friday 2-7 p.m.; Saturday 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Oxford County Mental Health Services, support for adults and children with mental illness, same location, second floor, open Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-4 p.m. For more information, call 364-3549 or (800) 335-9999, or in off-hours 928-3222.

VETERANS' SERVICES

Maine Veterans Home, S. Paris, Veterans' Advocate visits first and third Wednesday each month, 9-12 noon (743-6300); Rumford 9-12 noon second Thursday at VA Clinic at 431 Franklin St. (369-3272). Maine Veterans' Services is located at 29 Westminster St., Lewiston (783-5306). (No visits in July)

MULTIPLE SERVICES

Community Concepts provides Oxford County Head Start, childcare, free rides to Maine Care appointments, subsidized apartments (Bethel, Brownfield, Fryeburg, Norway, Rumford, South Paris), affordable home-ownership opportunities, homeless shelter and assistance with home heating or weatherizing. FMI: call (800) 866-5588 or visit www.community-concepts.org.

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HAPPENING AROUND TOWN

COUNTRY CHRISTMAS IN BETHEL FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2012 TO MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2012

Country Christmas in Bethel is weekends Thanksgiving to Christmas, with a few mid-week activities also. Local Craft & Wares Fair (Nov. 23), Breakfast with Santa, Greens Sale, Christmas Fair & Tea, Jingle Bell Run, arrival of Santa & Christmas tree lighting (Dec. 1), Saturday afternoon wagon rides through historic Bethel village, Santa Sunday at Sunday River (Dec. 2), open houses, shopping specials, holiday concerts, Living Nativity. All create a fun, country-Christmas atmosphere! FMI, call the Bethel Area Chamber of Commerce at 824-2282.

WESTERN MOUNTAINS SENIOR COLLEGE SENIOR PLAYERS PERFORMANCE FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2012 & SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2012

Two holiday favorites – "A Child's Christmas in Wales" by Dylan Thomas and "Memories of a Wonderful Life" by Jonathan M. Zaley – will be performed by the Senior College Players. Director Lynn Arizzi said, "Come sing, join us on stage, but only if you like, and celebrate the holidays with us. We'll give you the lines so you can join in the fun." There will be three performances: one on Friday, December 7, at 7:00 pm, and two on Saturday, December 8, at 1:00 pm and at 7:00 pm. Performances take place at the Mason House Exhibit Hall, intersection of Broad and Mason Streets, Bethel (entrance on Mason Street). Senior College Players is offered as a course sponsored by Western Mountains Senior College. The public is invited to the performances and admission is free. However, donations will be accepted to offset Royalty fees. For more information, contact Lynn Arizzi at 824-0080.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2012

What are you wishing for this Christmas? Let Santa know at Crescent Park School's traditional Breakfast with Santa. The kids can have their pictures taken with Santa for \$5 to benefit the 5th grade class trip. Music, crafts, and breakfast are free for the whole family. Time: 9-11 a.m.

FREE HORSE-DRAWN WAGON RIDES SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2012

1-3pm Thank you to the Smokin' Good BBQ and the Good Food Store for making these wagon rides possible for all to enjoy. Meet at the north end of the town common near the Chapman Inn for rides through historic Bethel village. Rides given by Deepwood Farm.

THE LIVING NATIVITY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2012

A live re-enactment of the nativity using real people and live animals is very inspiring! This event is held outside every year on the Bethel village common. Dress warmly and come to the Bethel town common on at 5:00pm. View this this scene performed by local people...and live animals. A Bethel tradition – so sweet. Carols will be sung too and you may join in. Which local family will play Mary, Joseph, and the baby Jesus this year?

GREAT WAYS TO MAKE YOUR HOLIDAY DINNER PARTY A SUCCESS!

CRANBERRY & BLUE CHEESE BALL

8 oz. pkg. cream cheese, softened
1 cup sharp white Cheddar cheese, shredded
4 oz. container crumbled blue cheese
6 oz. pkg. sweetened dried cranberries
assorted crackers

Place all ingredients except crackers into a food processor; process until well combined. Shape cheese mixture into a ball on a length of plastic wrap; wrap well and refrigerate overnight. Let stand at room temperature for 30 minutes before serving. Serve with assorted crackers. Makes about 3 cups.

11-LAYER GARDEN IN A BOWL

3 cups mayonnaise
2 1/2 cup sugar
2 10 oz. pkgs. mixed salad greens
1 lb. bacon, crisply cooked and crumbled
1 red onion, diced
10 oz. pkg. frozen peas, thawed
1 green pepper, diced
2 cups cauliflower florets
2 cups broccoli florets
1 cup sliced mushrooms
1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese
1 cup cherry tomatoes, halved
1 T. Italian seasoning

In a bowl, mix mayonnaise and sugar until blended; set aside. Layer half the salad greens in a large serving bowl or 13"x9" glass baking pan. Layer with half the mayonnaise mixture, half the remaining ingredients except tomatoes and seasoning. Repeat layers. Top with tomatoes and sprinkle with seasoning. Cover and refrigerate 2 hours before serving. Makes 8 servings.

STEAK & SPINACH PINWHEELS

1 1/4 lbs. beef flank steak or top round steak, halved lengthwise
3/4 t. lemon-pepper seasoning
1/4 t. salt
8 slices bacon, partially cooked
10 oz. pkg. frozen chopped spinach, thawed, drained and pressed dry
2 T. dry bread crumbs
1/2 t. dried thyme

With a sharp knife, score both pieces of steak in a diamond pattern with cuts one-inch apart. Repeat on other side. Place one piece of steak between 2 lengths of wax paper; pound lightly into a 10-inch by 6-inch rectangle. Repeat with second piece. Blend seasoning and salt; sprinkle each steak evenly with half of mixture. Arrange 4 slices of bacon lengthwise on each. Combine remaining ingredients in a bowl; spread half of spinach mixture over each steak. Starting at a short end, roll up each steak. Place seam-side down on an aluminum foil-lined, lightly greased broiler pan. Broil for 11 to 13 minutes, to desired doneness. Let stand for 2 to 3 minutes before slicing. Serves 6.

CHEDDAR POTATO GRATIN

2 t. dried sage
1 1/2 t. salt
1/2 t. pepper
3 lbs. potatoes, peeled, thinly sliced and divided
1 onion, thinly sliced and divided
8 oz. pkg. shredded Cheddar cheese, divided
1 cup whipping cream
1 cup chicken broth

Mix sage, salt and pepper in a cup; set aside. Layer 1/3 of potatoes and half of onion in a lightly greased 13"x9" baking pan. Sprinkle with one teaspoon of sage mixture and 1/3 of cheese. Repeat layers with remaining ingredients, ending with cheese. Whisk cream and broth together until well blended; pour evenly over top. Bake, covered, at 400 degrees for one hour, until tender and golden. Let stand 5 minutes before serving. Makes 10 to 12 servings.

CHOCOLATE EGGNOG

2 qts. eggnog
16 oz. can chocolate syrup
Optional: 1/2 cup light rum
1 cup whipping cream
2 T. powdered sugar
Garnish: baking cocoa

Combine eggnog, chocolate syrup and rum, if using, in a punch bowl, stirring well. Beat whipping cream with an electric mixer on high speed until foamy. Add powdered sugar; continue beating until stiff peaks form. Dollop whipped cream over eggnog; sift cocoa over top. Serve immediately. Makes 3 quarts.

PEPPERMINT CANDY CHEESECAKE

1 cup graham cracker crumbs
3/4 cup sugar, divided
6 T. butter, melted and divided
1 1/2 cups sour cream
2 eggs
1 T. all-purpose flour
2 t. vanilla extract
2 8 oz. pkgs. cream cheese, softened
1/4 cup peppermint candies, coarsely crushed
Optional: frozen whipped topping, thawed; crushed peppermint candies; mini candy canes

Blend crumbs, 1/4 cup sugar and 1/4 cup melted butter in bottom of an ungreased 8" round springform pan; press evenly over bottom. Blend sour cream, remaining sugar, eggs, flour and vanilla in a blender or food processor until smooth, stop-ping to scrape sides. Add cream cheese and blend; stir in remaining 2 tablespoons melted butter until completely smooth. Fold in crushed candies and pour over crust. Bake at 325 degrees for 45 minutes. Remove from oven and run a knife around edge of pan. Cool; refrigerate overnight. Loosen pan sides and remove springform; garnish with whipped topping, crushed candies and candy canes, if desired. Serves 12.



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1. Open to any age.
2. Contestants may use crayons, colored pencils or markers.
3. Limit one entry per person. Entries will not be returned.
4. All entries must be in by December 21.
5. Submissions are considered property of this newspaper and may be printed in this newspaper.
6. Entries will receive a chocolate Santa when they drop off the entry.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Age: _____

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Committee	Number of Vacancies	Length of Term (Years)
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Airport Authority	2	3
Budget Committee	4	3
Conservation Commission	1	3
Ordinance Review	3	1
Planning Board	3	3
Recreation Board	2	3
Water District Trustee	1	3
Comprehensive Plan Committee *		

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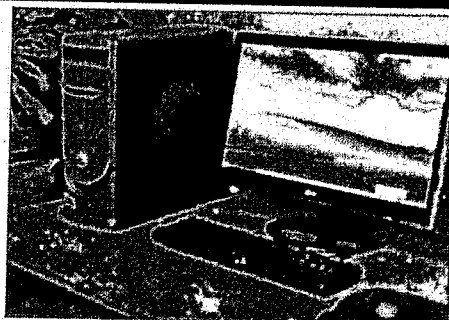
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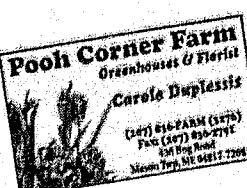
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

WHEREAS, on July 10, 2012, a Judgment of Foreclosure and Order of Sale was entered by the District Court, District Eleven, Division of Northern Oxford, in an action entitled *The Summit Condominium Owners Association v. James R. Tarnow*, under Docket No. RUM-RE-11-44, for the foreclosure of condominium association fees due from the said James R. Tarnow to The Summit Condominium Owners Association, a copy of said Judgment being duly recorded in the Oxford County Registry of Deeds in Book 4906, Page 148 and,

WHEREAS, the statutory ninety (90) day redemption period has elapsed without redemption by the said Defendants, their successors or assigns;

NOW, THEREFORE, by order of and in execution of said Judgment of Foreclosure and Order of Sale, notice is hereby given that there will be sold at public sale at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, December 28, 2012, at the office of John S. Jenness, Jr., Esq., at 23 Market Square, South Paris, Maine, all and singular the premises described in said Judgment, to wit:

Certain real estate located in the Town of Newry, County of Oxford and State of Maine, more particularly described as follows:

Unit No. 343/345 Time Share Unit Quarter 1 in Building 1 of Phase I in the Summit at Sunday River, A Condominium, located in the Town of Newry, County of Oxford and State of Maine, a condominium established by Sunday River Skiway Corporation pursuant to the Maine Condominium Act and by Declaration of Condominium dated December 14, 1992, and recorded in the Oxford County Registry of Deeds, Eastern District, in Book 1965, Page 187 (which Declaration, together with the Exhibits and/or appendices thereto, and any amendments, is herein termed "Declaration" and to which reference is hereby made), which said unit is shown on the floor plans of the building identified above recorded simultaneously with said Declaration in said Registry of Deeds. Reference is also made to survey plan, by Dana C. Douglass, Jr., R.S., likewise recorded simultaneously with said Declaration in said Registry.

Being precisely the same premises conveyed to James R. Tarnow by Warranty Deed in Book 2090, Page 337 from the Sunday River Ski Corporation dated January 11, 1994, which is recorded in the Oxford County Registry of Deeds, and entitled and subject to all benefits and restrictions as described therein.

TERMS OF SALE: Pursuant to Title 14 M.R.S.A. §6323, the public sale shall be held not less than thirty (30) days nor more than forty-five (45) days after the first date of publication of this Notice. The Association shall sell the premises to the highest bidder at the public sale and deliver a deed of such sale to the purchaser, which deed shall convey the premises free and clear of all interest of the parties-in-interest joined in the action. The Association or any other party-in-interest may bid at the public sale. All bids are to be supported by 10% deposit, except for banks. All deposits are to be made either in cash or by certified check at the time of bidding. Closing on the sale shall occur within thirty (30) days of the date of the sale. All other terms are to be announced at its place of business in Newry, Maine, or the undersigned attorney for the Association.

DATED AT PARIS, MAINE, this 16th day of November, 2012

ASSOCIATION THE SUMMIT CONDOMINIUM OWNERS

By: John S. Jenness, Jr.
Its Attorney
23 Market Square
South Paris, Maine 04281
(207) 743-2096

Celladore

'How do you like the climate?'

Early winter lags along. We are not too conscious of the cold as busy with Noel preparations, long evenings to read, not much snow to shovel yet, getting out to town no problem, keeping fires going done automatically. At five p.m. we toss two big oak logs into the furnace. They keep the house warm until midnight. One more log in that carries us over to morning comfortably. Comes a night, at nine o'clock I feel a bit shivery. I ask B.B. if he has heard any weather reports. He is buried in an interesting book and does not answer. I look at the thermometer; it is down to zero already. I carry the radio upstairs and get the news, ten or fifteen below zero predicted. I go below and put more logs in the furnace, then take a turn about the house to batten down for the night. In the dining room I draw the roc-lon lined curtains that have kept out the summer heat and will now keep out the cold. I stop for a last look at the beauty outside. The full of the moonlight silhouettes the tall horizon fir tree and black range of mountains against the sky. Down in the village the one row of street lights twinkle brightly. We see them only after the leaves have fallen and call it Broadway. To the south on Paradise Hill, the lights in our friends' houses blink across the valley.

To the living room. People in the country seldom come calling at nine p.m. but should they, it seems unfriendly to be greeted by a dark house. But tonight is cold; the curtains must be drawn. The east window overlooks the roadway, the big pine at the edge of the field stands tall and alone. The roadway curves by a tall white birch at the foot of the stonewall garden. I wonder if the little tamarack tree planted last fall will survive its first winter. Natives call it hackmatac after an old Algonquin Indian word. They used the branches for snowshoe frames. The Europeans call it larch; the Norsemen made keels for their long boats from its wood. We wanted it in the birch field fence row for the dainty golden needles in November, our last gay color of the year.

I remember the summer that we cleared the birch field, as hot then as cold now. It was my first experience digging out alders. The soft wood made it easy to cut off the tops with loppers but the tenacious roots clung in wet spots and had to be cut off below ground level lest sharp stubs cut horses' feet. Molly-O and Fred, cousins from Oregon, spent the summer with us. B.B. plowed a few strips of the field each day. Kristie and Suzie stood resignedly as B.B. stopped every few feet to heave out with a crowbar stones and boulders. I helped pick out and move the little stones. With the larger ones, Fred extended our stone wall opposite the roadway. Molly-O cooked us delicious meals...I remember BDI on the loose trotting up the road like a prince, headed towards his pen and always swerving for freedom.

I remember our first summer when much work was to be done and there came trippers, trippers, trippers. After fifty natives on it now meant a chance for all the curious to come and see what it was really like. Some stayed to chat. Others just turned around without even a wave. I remember stories that fascinated us as children about tramps putting their mark on a place to let others know if this house gave you food or drove you away. I wondered if the only two salesmen that ever came and left a sign that we were not impulse buyers. I remember the nights of the big, big storms when one is awakened from sleep hearing the roar of the snowplows coming up the hill, going to the window and seeing flashing red lights coming into sight; plenty of times to dash downstairs, light the gas stove and brew a cup of coffee for men who would be working all night. I shiver a bit and remember that I am on a mission and not a drowning man reliving an entire life.

Weddings



Mr. and Mrs. Daniel B. Zinchuk

Jennifer Lee Santos and Daniel Barrett Zinchuk exchanged vows at a lovely wedding ceremony on July 7, 2012, overlooking the Pacific at the exquisite La Venta Inn in Palos Verdes Estates, Calif.

Jen is the daughter of Walt and Terrie Santos of Martinez, Calif., and Dan is the son of Doug and Robin Zinchuk of Albany, Maine.

Jen was attended by Lindsey Mirkovich, Maid of Honor and Brittany Stefanski, Matron of Honor, as well as Bridesmaids, Chrystine Zermeno, Jamie Elsberry, Sarah Vernizzi, Kellie Manley and Jessica Hawk.

Dan's brother, Matthew Zinchuk, was Best Man. Groomsmen included Dan's brothers Brian and Kevin Zinchuk, Jeff Santos, brother of the bride, and friends Steve Estes, Graham Stephen and Justin Termino.

Flower girls were Lilly Davis and Leilani Flood, cousins of the bride.

Dan, originally from Bethel, is a graduate of Telstar High School 2001 and Boston's Emerson College in 2005.

Jen, originally from Martinez, Calif., is a 2007 graduate of University of California, Santa Barbara.

Jen and Dan met at Mad Dogg Athletics in Venice Beach, Calif., where they currently work in the Marketing and Web departments.

The ceremony and reception was a wonderful celebration with nearly 150 family and friends who traveled from all over the country - and some internationally - to be a part of it. They are truly a match made in Heaven!

Jen and Dan enjoyed a dream honeymoon in Tahiti and then returned to their residence in Playa del Rey, Calif.



Mr. and Mrs. Beau Silver

On July 14, 2012 Rachel Ecker-Polak and Beau Silver were united in marriage in Santa Cruz, Calif.

Rachel is the daughter of Emily Ecker and Marcel Polak of Woodstock, Maine.

Beau is the son of Louise Katz and Joel Silver and the step son of Alan Katz all of Cocoa Beach, Fla.

Rachel is a floral designer and Beau is a software engineer. They live and work in the Santa Cruz area.

Births

Sarah and Christopher DeCato of Auburn are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Lucy Mae DeCato, born on Oct. 11, 2012 at Central Maine Medical Center, Lewiston.

Maternal grandparents are Judy Coolidge and Richard Cross of Bethel and the late Victor Coolidge.

Paternal grandparents are Dana DeCato and the late Richard D. DeCato of Norway.

Maternal great-grandparent is Alberta Angevine of Bethel.

Paternal great-grandparent is Merline Martin of Norway.

Lucy Mae joins her sister, Isla, age 2 1/2.

Mark and Catherine Buiniskas of Oxford are pleased to announce the arrival of a baby girl, Grace Morgyn Buiniskas, on Oct. 14, 2012, weighing 6 pounds, 11 ounces.

Maternal grandparents are Phyllis and Walter Libby of South Casco.

Paternal grandparents are Frank and Mabel Buiniskas of Bethel and Steve and Patricia Mongeau of Poland. Grace Morgyn joins her brother, Drake Buiniskas, age 6.

Thank You!

We'd like to thank everyone who attended and helped make Turkey Tuesday a huge success again this year. Special thanks to American Legion Jackson-Silver Post, Conant Meat and Produce, Bethel Foodliner, Sunday River Brewing Co., Sebago Brewing Co., Maine Press, and The Bethel Citizen. A very special thanks to all the volunteers who helped, we couldn't have done it without you.

Our community's generosity raised a truck-load of food and almost \$1,000 for the District Exchange and Bethel Food Pantry.

We hope to see you all next year!
Heather & Dave

INNside Shop -

Consignments and More...

Gifts and holiday decorating items, some old, some new, so old - always special.
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Dana Chandler, Director

PUBLIC HEARING
OXFORD COUNTY

FY 14 UNORGANIZED TERRITORY BUDGET

The Oxford County Commissioners will conduct a public hearing on the proposed FY 14 municipal services budget for the county's unorganized territory on Wednesday, December 12, 2012 at 9 AM in the Commissioners courtroom at 26 Western Ave, South Paris, Maine. All interested parties are welcome to attend, ask questions, and submit oral/written comment. The Commissioners are likely to take final action on the budget at this time, with or without amendment, and then submit same to the State of Maine. The budget proposal may be viewed on-line at www.oxfordcounty.org.

For more information contact the County Administrator at 743-6359 or by email at scole@oxfordcounty.org.

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RABIES CLINIC

There will be a rabies clinic on Saturday, December 15, 2012, at the Bethel Fire Station from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The fee for the rabies shot is \$15.00. PAYMENTS MUST BE MADE IN CASH ONLY!

A staff member from the Bethel Town Office will be available to license dogs for Bethel, Albany and Mason residents. Licensing fees are \$11.00 per dog or \$6.00 per spayed or neutered dog.

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